This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
B cell lymphoma	IL-1 receptor-associated kinase 1 (IRAK1); IRAK4; myeloid differentiation primary response gene 88 (MYD88)	Studies in cell culture and in patient samples suggest that blocking a mutated version of the MYD88 pathway could help treat activated B cell-like subtype of diffuse large B cell lymphoma (ABC-DLBCL). A specific MYD88 mutant occurred in 29% of ABC-DLBCL patient biopsies. Immunoprecipitation and gene profiling studies showed that mutant MYD88 triggered formation of a prosurvival protein complex containing IRAK1 and IRAK4. Next steps include evaluating compounds that could inhibit signaling in the mutated form of the MYD88-IRAK pathway.	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Ngo, V.N. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online Dec. 22, 2010; doi:10.1038/nature09671 Contact: Louis M. Staudt, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: lstaudt@mail.nih.gov
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