This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Bone marrow transplant (BMT); graft-versus-host disease (GvHD)	Osteopontin (OPN; SPP1)	Mouse studies suggest that inhibiting OPN could help prevent GvHD in BMT patients. In mouse models of GvHD, transplant of donor CD8 ⁺ T cells and T cell-depleted bone marrow induced higher levels of OPN and more signs of GvHD than transplant of depleted marrow alone. In the same models, an anti-OPN antibody decreased signs of GvHD and increased survival compared with control IgG. Next steps could include testing the anti-OPN antibody in other animal models of GvHD.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Zhao, F. <i>et al. Blood</i> ; published online Nov. 30, 2010; doi:10.1182/blood-2010-04-281659 Contact: Yanyun Zhang, Shanghai Institutes for Biological Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai, China e-mail: yyzhang@sibs.ac.cn
<i>SciBX</i> 4(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.54 Published online Jan. 13, 2011				