This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	Myeloid leukemia cell differentiation protein (MCL1); IL-24 (MDA7)	<p>Mouse studies suggest MCL1 inhibition could sensitize prostate tumors to IL-24 therapy. In a mouse model of prostate cancer, the MCL1 inhibitor sabutoclax in combination with an IL-24-delivering adenovirus lowered tumor growth more than either agent alone. Ongoing work includes evaluating a modified adenovirus to more effectively deliver IL-24. Ascenta Therapeutics Inc. and partner Ascentage Pharma Group Corp. are developing AT-101, a B cell lymphoma 2 (BCL-2; BCL2) and MCL1 inhibitor that is in Phase I/II and Phase II testing for cancer. ChemGenex Pharmaceuticals Ltd. and partner Hospira Inc. are developing the MCL1 inhibitor Tekinex omacetaxine mepesuccinate, which is in Phase II trials for myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) and under review for chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML).</p> <p>SciBX 4(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.596 Published online May 26, 2011</p>	Patent application filed for combined use of IL-24-delivering adenovirus and sabutoclax; available for licensing	<p>Dash, R. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online May 9, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1100769108</p> <p>Contact: Paul B. Fisher, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Va. e-mail: pbfisher@vcu.edu</p>