This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
B cell lymphoma; chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL)	CD37	<p>Mouse and cell culture studies identified a CD37-targeting mAb that could help treat B cell malignancies. In a human Burkitt's lymphoma cell line, the CD37-targeting mAb significantly increased apoptosis compared with Rituxan rituximab ($p<0.05$). In a mouse model of human Burkitt's lymphoma, the CD37-targeting mAb inhibited tumor growth compared with vehicle. Next steps were not disclosed but could include evaluating the mAb in additional mouse models of B cell malignancies.</p> <p>TRU-016, a humanized small modular immunopharmaceutical (SMIP) that targets the CD37 antigen from Emergent BioSolutions Inc. and Abbott Laboratories, is in Phase I/II testing for CLL and Phase I trials for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL).</p> <p>IMGN529, a CD37-targeting antibody linked to the DM1 cytotoxic agent from ImmunoGen Inc., is in Phase I testing for NHL.</p> <p>Rituxan, a mAb against CD20 from Biogen Idec Inc. and the Genentech Inc. subsidiary of Roche, is marketed for a variety of autoimmune diseases and hematological cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 4(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.899 Published online Aug. 18, 2011</p>	Multiple patents covering CD37 antibodies filed by Boehringer Ingelheim GmbH; licensing status unavailable	<p>Heider, K.-H. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online July 27, 2011; doi:10.1182/blood-2011-04-351932</p> <p>Contact: Karl-Heinz Heider, Boehringer Ingelheim RCV, Vienna, Austria e-mail: karl-heinz.heider@boehringer-ingelheim.com</p>