This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Acute myelogenous leukemia (AML); acute promyelocytic leukemia (APL); leukemia	DEAD box polypeptide 58 (DDX58; RIG-I)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that agonizing RIG-I could help treat leukemia. In a human AML cell line, higher RIG-I levels led to greater cell cycle arrest and apoptosis than those in controls. In primary bone marrow cells from mouse models of APL, retroviral expression of murine <i>Rig-I</i> increased cell cycle arrest and apoptosis compared with expression of an empty control vector. Ongoing work includes evaluating methods of activating RIG-I to treat leukemia.	Patent status undisclosed; available for licensing or partnering	Jiang, L.-J. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Jan. 10, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1019059108 Contact: Jiang Zhu, Shanghai Institute for Biological Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai, China e-mail: zhujjiang@shsmu.edu Contact: Lin-Jia Jiang, same affiliation as above e-mail: kalinker@163.com
		SciBX 4(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.95 Published online Jan. 27, 2011		