This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain cancer	Natural cytotoxicity triggering receptor 1 (NCR1; NKP46; CD335); natural killer p30 receptor (NKP30; NCR3; CD337)	Mouse and cell culture studies suggest inhibiting NCR1 or NCR3 could enhance oncolytic viral therapies to treat glioblastoma. In mice with human glioblastoma cells injected with the oncolytic herpes virus rQNestin34.5, depletion of NK cells increased tumor levels of rQNestin34.5 and survival compared with no NK cell depletion. In human glioblastoma cells, rQNestin34.5 increased levels of the NK cell receptors NCR1 and NCR3 compared with mock treatment. In the glioblastoma xenograft mice treated with rQNestin34.5, those transplanted with Ncr1-deficient NK cells showed greater survival than those transplanted with wild-type NK cells. Next steps include identifying NCR1 and NCR3 ligands that are unregulated.	rQNestin34.5 patented by Massachusetts General Hospital; available for licensing	Alvarez-Breckenridge, C.A. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i> ; published online Nov. 25, 2012; doi:10.1038/nm.3013 Contact: E. Antonio Chiocca, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: eachiocca@partners.org Contact: Michael A. Caligiuri, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio e-mail: michael.caligiuri@osumc.edu
		SciBX 5(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1252 Published online Dec. 13, 2012		