This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Hodgkin's lymphoma	Discoidin domain receptor tyrosine kinase 1 (DDR1)	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies suggest inhibiting DDR1 could help increase the efficacy of chemotherapeutics in Hodgkin's lymphoma. In Hodgkin's lymphoma cells, collagen from the tumor microenvironment induced DDR1 phosphorylation, and small interfering RNA against <i>DDR1</i> increased cell death of the collagen-treated cells compared with control siRNA. In collagen-treated Hodgkin's lymphoma cells, overexpression of DDR1 protected the cells from etoposide-induced cell death. Next steps could include testing DDR1 inhibition in mouse models using broad-spectrum receptor tyrosine kinase inhibitors such as Sprycel dasatinib and Tassigna nilotinib in combination with chemotherapeutics.</p> <p>Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. and Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. market Sprycel to treat chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) and acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). Novartis AG markets Tassigna to treat CML. Etoposide is a generic topoisomerase inhibitor chemotherapeutic.</p> <p>SciBX 6(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1317 Published online Dec. 5, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Cader, F.Z. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Oct. 17, 2013; doi:10.1182/blood-2013-04-499004 Contact: Fathima Zumla Cader, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, U.K. e-mail: f.z.cader@bham.ac.uk</p>