This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Pancreatic cancer	L1 cell adhesion molecule (L1CAM; CD171)	<p>Studies in patient samples and mice suggest inhibiting CD171 could help treat pancreatic cancer. In the vasculature of primary pancreatic cancers and other tumor types, CD171 levels were higher than those in the vasculature of normal tissues. In a mouse endothelial cell line, forced expression of Cd171 increased proliferation, migration and angiogenic processes compared with no modification. In mice bearing orthotopic pancreatic tumors, Cd171 deficiency or an antibody against mouse Cd171 decreased tumor growth, vascular density and the number of metastatic lesions compared with normal Cd171 expression or an inactive control IgG. Ongoing work includes testing the anti-Cd171 antibody in mouse models of ovarian cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 7(36); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1068 Published online Sept. 18, 2014</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed; available for partnering	<p>Magrini, E. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Aug. 26, 2014; doi:10.1172/JCI70683</p> <p>Contact: Ugo Cavallaro, European Institute of Oncology, Milano, Italy e-mail: ugo.cavallaro@ieo.eu</p>