This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Toll-like receptor 4 (TLR4); HPV antigens; survivin (BIRC5)	<p>Mouse studies suggest a combination of adjuvants could help improve the efficacy of cancer vaccines. The combined adjuvant consisted of SA-4-IBBL, a T cell co-stimulatory molecule, and monophosphoryl lipid A (MPL), a TLR4 agonist. In a mouse model of HPV-induced cancer, immunization with an HPV antigen-based vaccine plus the combined adjuvant induced tumor rejection in 100% of mice versus 80% and 50% rejection in mice immunized with the vaccine plus SA-4-IBBL or MPL, respectively. In a mouse model of pulmonary metastases, immunization with a BIRC5-based vaccine and the combined adjuvant decreased tumor growth compared with immunization using vaccine plus either adjuvant alone. Next steps could include testing the combined adjuvant in additional cancer models.</p> <p>SciBX 7(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1289 Published online Nov. 13, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Srivastava, A.K. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online Sept. 24, 2014; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-14-1768-A Contact: Haval Shirwan, University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky. e-mail: haval.shirwan@louisville.edu</p>