This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Acute myelogenous leukemia (AML); acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL)	Myeloid-lymphoid or mixed-lineage leukemia (MLL; HRX); multiple endocrine neoplasia I (MEN1; menin)	<p>SAR studies suggest compounds that disrupt the interaction between MLL and menin could be useful for treating some forms of AML and ALL. About 5% of AML and ALL cases are caused by activating mutations and translocations in MLL. <i>In vitro</i>, hydroxy- and aminomethylpiperidine compounds inhibited MLL's interaction with its cofactor menin. In cultured leukemia cells, the best of these compounds inhibited proliferation with an IC₅₀ of about 56 nM and led to expression of myeloid differentiation markers. Next steps include pharmacokinetic optimization and selection of lead candidates.</p> <p>SciBX 7(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.279 Published online March 13, 2014</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing	<p>He, S. <i>J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Jan. 28, 2014; doi:10.1021/jm401868d Contact: Jolanta Grembecka, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. e-mail: jolantag@umich.edu</p>