This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Melanoma	Glucocorticoid-induced tumor necrosis factor receptor-related protein (GITR; TNFRSF18); tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily member 4 (TNFRSF4; OX40; CD134); platelet activating factor (PAF)	<p>Mouse studies suggest PAF inhibitors could help prevent anaphylaxis caused by therapeutic antibodies that target members of the TNFR superfamily. In mice, repeated intraperitoneal dosing of the agonistic, GITR-targeting antibody DTA-1 or the agonistic, OX40-targeting antibody OX86 led to anaphylaxis. The PAF inhibitor CV6209 blocked DTA-1- and OX86-induced anaphylaxis, whereas a histamine inhibitor did not. In mice with melanoma that received a tumor antigen-specific antibody plus DTA-1, the PAF inhibitor blocked DTA-1-induced anaphylaxis without also blocking the antitumor effect of DTA-1. Next steps could include evaluating the use of agonistic GITR antibodies with and without PAF inhibitors in additional disease models.</p> <p>DTA-1, OX86 and CV6209 are all research compounds.</p> <p>SciBX 7(12); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.341 Published online March 27, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Murphy, J.T. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Feb. 20, 2014; doi:10.1182/blood-2013-12-544742 Contact: Jedd D. Wolchok, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y. e-mail: wolchokj@mskcc.org</p>