This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Multiple myeloma (MM)	CD28	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest blocking the interaction between CD28 and its ligands could help prevent chemotherapy resistance in MM. In a coculture of MM and dendritic cells, an antibody that blocks the interaction between CD28 on MM cells and its ligand on dendritic cells resensitized the former to melphalan chemotherapy. In a mouse model of MM, melphalan plus the antibody decreased tumor burden compared with either treatment alone. Next steps include evaluating antibodies that block CD28 activity in patients with MM. Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. markets Oncia abatacept, an antibody that targets CD28 ligands, to treat rheumatoid arthritis (RA). Effimune S.A.S. has the anti-CD28 antibody fragment FR104 in preclinical development to treat organ transplant rejection.</p> <p>SciBX 7(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.677 Published online June 12, 2014</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Murray, M.E. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online April 29, 2014; doi:10.1182/blood-2013-10-530964 Contact: Kelvin P. Lee, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, N.Y. e-mail: kelvin.lee@roswellpark.org</p>