This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Myeloid-lymphoid or mixed-lineage leukemia (MLL; HRX); heat shock protein 90 (Hsp90)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting MLL in combination with HSP90 could help treat cancer. Heat shock transcription factor 1 (HSF1) is induced in response to HSP90 inhibitors and limits their efficacy. In cultured human cancer cell lines, an siRNA targeting <i>MLL</i> , but not siRNAs targeting related genes, downregulated HSF1-dependent gene expression. In a mouse xenograft model of human melanoma, combination of <i>MLL</i> knockdown and an HSP90 inhibitor decreased tumor volume more than vehicle or either treatment alone. Next steps could include testing MLL and HSP90 inhibitors in combination in animal models of cancer.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Chen, Y. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online May 15, 2014; doi:10.1074/jbc.M114.574053 Contact: Wenlai Zhou, Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: wenlai.zhou@novartis.com
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