This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hematology				
Thrombocytopenia	Secreted protein acidic cysteine-rich (SPARC)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting the extracellular matrix protein SPARC could help protect hematopoietic stem cells from chemotherapy-associated toxicity. In mice receiving repeated cycles of 5-fluorouracil chemotherapy, <i>Sparc</i>^{-/-} animals had less bone marrow failure and longer survival than wild-type littermates. In the <i>Sparc</i>^{-/-} mice, hematopoietic stem cells had an accelerated return to a quiescent state after chemotherapy. Next steps could include screening for pharmacological inhibitors of SPARC synthesis.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 7(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.769 Published online July 10, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Ehninger, A. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online May 15, 2014; doi:10.1182/blood-2013-10-533711 Contact: Andreas Trumpp, German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, Germany e-mail: a.trumpp@dkfz-heidelberg.de</p>