This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Granulocyte macrophage colony- stimulating factor (GM-CSF; CSF2); IL-4 (BSF1)	<p>Mouse studies suggest a GM-CSF and IL-4 fusion molecule called GIFT4 could be useful for treating various cancers. In a mouse model of melanoma, i.v. treatment with GIFT4 increased expansion of endogenous B cells and decreased tumor growth compared with vehicle treatment or separate administration of GM-CSF and IL-4. In human cell cocultures, T cells from patients with melanoma primed with GIFT4 showed greater killing of melanoma cells than T cells primed with separate administration of GM-CSF and IL-4. Next steps include developing GIFT4-augmented autologous B cells as a transfusion product that could be combined with existing cancer therapy regimens and developing GIFT4 as an injectable therapeutic protein.</p> <p>SciBX 7(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.860 Published online July 31, 2014</p>	<p>Patent application filed; available for licensing from Emory University Contact: Clifford Michaels, Emory University, Atlanta, Ga. e-mail: ccmicha@emory.edu</p>	<p>Deng, J. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online June 17, 2014; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-14-0708 Contact: Jacques Galipeau, Emory University, Atlanta, Ga. e-mail: jgalipe@emory.edu</p>