This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hematology				
Stem cell transplant	Ret proto-oncogene (RET)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest RET agonists could improve the outcome of hematopoietic stem cell (HSC) transplants. In HSCs, RET expression was greater than that in more differentiated, multipotent progenitor cells. In lethally irradiated mice, transplantation of <i>Ret</i>-deficient HSCs resulted in decreased survival and reconstitution of various hematopoietic cell lineages compared with transplantation of wild-type HSCs. Next steps include scaling up the method for research and clinical applications.</p> <p>SciBX 7(33); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.989 Published online Aug. 28, 2014</p>	Patented; available for licensing	<p>Fonseca-Periera, D. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online July 27, 2014; doi:10.1038/nature13498</p> <p>Contact: Henrique Veiga-Fernandes, Institute of Molecular Medicine, Faculty of Medicine of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal e-mail: jhfernandes@medicina.ulisboa.pt</p>