

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
B cell lymphoma	Type I NK T cells; type II NK T cells	A study in mice suggests that selectively activating type I NK T cells could help treat B cell lymphoma and other hematological cancers. In a mouse model of B cell lymphoma, mice deficient only in type I NK T cells had lower survival rates than mice deficient in both NK T cell types or wild-type controls. In mice with only type I NK T cell deficiency, an anti-NK T cell antibody restored survival to rates similar to those for wild-type mice, suggesting that type II NK T cells selectively suppress host antitumor response. Type I NK T cell-deficient mice had higher levels of anti-inflammatory cytokines than mice deficient in both NK T cell types or wild-type controls. Next steps include studies to elucidate the role of type I and type II NK T cells in the innate antitumor immune response in patients with hematological cancers.	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Renukaradhya, G.J. <i>et al. Blood</i> ; published online April 16, 2008; doi:10.1182/blood-2007-05-092866 Contact: Randy R. Brutkiewicz, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Ind. e-mail: rbrutkie@iupui.edu