

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Cancer	B cell CLL/lymphoma 2 (BCL2; BCL-2); BCL2-like 1 (BCL2 <sub>l1</sub> ; BCL-X <sub>l</sub> )	<p>Studies <i>in vitro</i> and in mice suggest that the BCL-2-converting peptide NuBCP-9 might be useful for treating cancer. NuBCP-9, a nine-amino-acid peptide derived from the proapoptotic nuclear receptor 77, and its enantiomer, D-NuBCP-9, have the ability to convert BCL-2 from an antiapoptotic to a proapoptotic regulator. Both peptides induced apoptosis in cancer cell lines and prevented tumor formation in severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID) mice. Further studies are necessary to identify a small molecule mimetic that could offer improved delivery over the peptide.</p> <p>At least 11 other companies have BCL-2 inhibitors in clinical and preclinical development to treat various cancers.</p> <p><b>SciBX 1(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.918</b> Published online Oct. 23, 2008</p>	Patent application filed covering the compounds; available for licensing	<p>Kolluri, S. <i>et al. Cancer Cell</i>; published online Oct. 6, 2008; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2008.09.002</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Xiao-kun Zhang, Burnham Institute for Medical Research, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: <a href="mailto:xzhang@burnham.org">xzhang@burnham.org</a></p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Arnold C. Satterthwait, Burnham Institute for Medical Research, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: <a href="mailto:asat@burnham.org">asat@burnham.org</a></p>