

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	c-abl oncogene 1, receptor tyrosine kinase (ABL1); v-src sarcoma (Schmidt-Ruppin A-2) viral oncogene homolog (avian) (SRC)	<p>Synthesis studies produced ABL1 and SRC kinase inhibitors that may be useful for treating cancer.</p> <p>In Gleevec-resistant T315I chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) cells, the dual inhibitors lowered proliferation compared with that seen in untreated cells. Next steps include pharmacokinetic, pharmacodynamic and animal studies to identify a development candidate.</p> <p>Imatinib, a BCR-ABL tyrosine kinase inhibitor from Novartis AG, is marketed as Gleevec in the U.S., Canada and Israel and as Glivec elsewhere for metastatic or unresectable kit-positive gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST), chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) and acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), as well as myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS), myeloproliferative diseases and certain other cancer indications.</p> <p>Sprycel dasatinib, a small molecule inhibitor of BCR-ABL and SRC kinases from Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., is marketed to treat ALL.</p> <p>At least six other companies have Abl and/or Src kinase inhibitors in Phase II or earlier to treat cancer.</p>	Patent application filed for use in multiple cancers; licensed worldwide rights to an undisclosed party	<p>Dar, A.C. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i>; published online Oct. 17, 2008; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2008.09.007</p> <p>Contact: Kevan M. Shokat, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: shokat@cmp.ucsf.edu</p>
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