

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Not applicable	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies suggest that carbohydrate conjugates of the photosensitizing agent 2-(1'-hexyloxyethyl)-2-devinylpyropheophorbide-<i>a</i> (HPPH) may be useful phototherapies for cancer. In murine fibrosarcoma and colon carcinoma cell lines, the HPPH conjugates had greater photo-induced toxicity than unconjugated HPPH. In murine models of fibrosarcoma and colon carcinoma, the lead conjugate improved survival over that with unconjugated HPPH. Next steps could examine the effects of compound lipophilicity, intracellular localization and intracellular transport mechanisms on the phototoxicity of conjugated and unconjugated HPPH.</p> <p>Roswell Park Cancer Institute has unconjugated HPPH in multiple Phase I and Phase II trials to treat various cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 2(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1001 Published online June 25, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Zheng, X. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online June 9, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm9001617</p> <p>Contact: Ravindra K. Pandey, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, N.Y e-mail: ravindra.pandey@roswellpark.org</p> <p>Contact: Heinz Baumann, same affiliation as above e-mail: Heinz.baumann@roswellpark.org</p>