

This week in therapeutics

| Indication | Target/marker/pathway | Summary | Licensing status | Publication and contact information |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cancer | | | | |
| Colon cancer | Cholecystokinin B receptor (CCKBR; CCK2R) | Studies in mice suggest that antagonizing CCK2R could help treat colorectal cancer. The CCK2R ligand progastrin can cause aberrant hyperproliferation of colonic epithelial cells. In mice overexpressing human progastrin, <i>Cck2r</i> knockout prevented progastrin-mediated increases in proliferation of colonic epithelial cells. In a mouse model of colon cancer, <i>Cck2r</i> knockout animals had fewer tumors and smaller tumor size than wild-type mice. Next steps could include testing CCK2R antagonists in the mouse model. | Patent and licensing status unavailable | Jin, G. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online Aug. 3, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI38918 Contact: Timothy C. Wang, Columbia University Medical Center, New York, N.Y. e-mail: tcw21@columbia.edu |
| <p><i>SciBX</i> 2(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1238 Published online Aug. 20, 2009</p> | | | | |