

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Cancer	Platelet-derived growth factor C chain (PDGFC; PDGF-C); VEGF (VEGFA)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that inhibiting PDGF-C could potentially help treat cancers resistant to anti-VEGF therapies. <i>In vitro</i>, fibroblasts associated with anti-VEGF-resistant tumors showed higher levels of PDGF-C than fibroblasts from tumors that were sensitive to anti-VEGF therapy. In xenograft mice implanted with fibroblasts from Vegf-refractory tumors, anti-Pdgf-C antibodies suppressed tumor growth compared with the effect of control antibodies. The combination of Pdgf-C and Vegf antibodies produced more tumor growth than control antibodies. Next steps could include investigating additional targets involved in tumor resistance that are upregulated in fibroblasts from tumors resistant to anti-VEGF drugs.</p> <p>No fewer than 14 companies have anti-VEGF therapeutics in development stages ranging from preclinical to marketed to treat various cancers.</p> <p><b>SciBX 2(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.132</b>  <b>Published online Jan. 29, 2009</b></p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Crawford, Y. <i>et al. Cell</i>; published online Jan. 5, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2008.12.004</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Napoleone Ferrara, Genentech, Inc., San Francisco, Calif.            e-mail: <a href="mailto:nf@gene.com">nf@gene.com</a></p>