

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hematology				
Transfusion	Asialoglycoprotein receptor 1 (ASGR1); ASGR2	A study in mice and in cell culture suggests that inhibitors of ASGR1 and ASGR2 could help improve platelet transfusion protocols. In wild-type mice, transfusion of platelets in combination with an inhibitor of Asgr1 and Asgr2 significantly increased platelet recovery and platelet survival times compared with transfusion plus mock inhibitor ($p < 0.001$). Next steps include studying the changes that platelets undergo when they are placed in long-term storage.	Patent pending covering compositions and methods for prolonging survival of platelets; licensed to Velico Medical Inc.	Rumjantseva, V. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i> ; published online Sept. 27, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.2030 Contact: Karin M. Hoffmeister, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: khoffmeister@rics.bwh.harvard.edu
		SciBX 2(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1440 Published online Oct. 1, 2009		