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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	CD47; thrombospondin-1 (TSP-1; THBS1)	*In vitro* and mouse studies suggest that blocking CD47 signaling could help boost the efficacy of radiotherapy while protecting healthy tissues. Cultured cells treated antibodies against CD47 or its ligand, TSP-1, as well as CD47 antisense, showed lower susceptibility to radiation-induced cell death than untreated control cells. In mice, CD47 antisense reduced radiation-induced damage to vascular cells, skeletal muscle and bone marrow compared with vehicle or mismatched antisense control. In tumor-bearing mice, CD47 antisense plus radiation delayed tumor regrowth by 89% compared with radiation alone. Next steps include pharmacokinetic and toxicology studies. ***SciBX*** **2(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1594** **Published online Nov. 5, 2009**	Patent applications filed; available for licensing	Maxhimer, J. *et al. Sci. Transl. Med.*; published online Oct. 21, 2009; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3000139 **Contact:** David D. Roberts, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: droberts@helix.nih.gov **Contact:** Lisa Ridnour, same affiliation as above e-mail: ridnourl@mail.nih.gov **Contact:** David Wink, same affiliation as above e-mail: wink@mail.nih.gov