

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
B cell lymphoma (BCL)	B-cell CLL/lymphoma 6 (BCL6); heat shock protein 90 (Hsp90)	<p>A study in mice suggests that Hsp90 inhibitors could help treat BCL6-dependent B cell lymphomas. In three mouse xenograft models of BCL6-dependent human diffuse large B cell lymphomas, the purine-based Hsp90 inhibitor PU-H71 significantly increased survival compared with vehicle ($p < 0.0001$). The compound also lowered levels of BCL6 and reduced tumor growth and burden compared with vehicle.</p> <p>PU-H71 is in preclinical testing with support from the National Cancer Institute. Tanespimycin (17-(allylamino)-17-demethoxygeldanamycin (17-AAG)), an Hsp90 inhibitor from the Kosan Biosciences Inc. unit of Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., is in Phase III testing to treat multiple myeloma (MM).</p> <p>Hypericin, a phototherapeutic that inhibits Hsp90 from Hy BioPharma Inc., is in Phase III testing as a topical agent to treat cutaneous T cell lymphoma (CTCL) and is in Phase I testing as an oral agent to treat glioblastoma.</p> <p>At least four other companies have Hsp90 inhibitors in Phase I/II or earlier to treat MM and other hematologic malignancies.</p>	Patent application filed for use in cancer therapy; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Cerchietti, L.C. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Nov. 22, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.2059</p> <p>Contact: Ari Melnick, Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, N.Y. e-mail: amm2014@med.cornell.edu</p> <p>Contact: Gabriela Chiosis, Sloan-Kettering Institute, New York, N.Y. e-mail: chiosisg@mskcc.org</p>
<p>SciBX 2(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1688 Published online Dec. 3, 2009</p>				