This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Multiple myeloma (MM)	Insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF1); IGF1 receptor (IGF1R); IL-6; IL-6 receptor (IL-6R)	<p>Studies in patient samples and in cell culture suggest that co-inhibiting IGF1R and IL-6 activity may help treat myeloma patients with IGF1R expression in cancer cells. In a panel of human myeloma cell lines, IL-6 or IGF1 significantly increased cell proliferation compared with that seen using no treatment ($p < 0.05$). An IL-6-targeting mAb or an IGF1R inhibitor prevented IL-6-induced and IGF1-induced proliferation. Next steps could include evaluating co-inhibition of IGF1R and IL-6 in preclinical models of MM.</p> <p>AVE1642, a nonconjugated antibody binding to IGF1R from ImmunoGen Inc. and sanofi-aventis Group, is in Phase I testing to treat MM.</p> <p>APG 206, an IGF1R antagonist from Allosteria Pharma, is in preclinical testing for MM.</p> <p>SciBX 2(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.399 Published online March 12, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Sprynski, A.C. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Feb. 18, 2009; doi:10.1182/blood-2008-07-170464</p> <p>Contact: Bernard Klein, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM), Montpellier, France e-mail: bernard.klein@inserm.fr</p>