This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Melanoma	B cell lymphoma 2 (BCL2; BCL-2)	<p>Cationic liposomes loaded with a proapoptotic peptide and an antisense compound could increase the efficacy of some melanoma therapies. In a mouse model of melanoma, liposomes carrying the proapoptotic peptide D-(KLAKLAK)₂ and the BCL2-targeting antisense compound G3139 inhibited tumor growth more than liposomes loaded with G3139 alone. In cultured mouse melanoma cells, peptide- and G3139-loaded liposomes elicited greater apoptotic activity than G3139-loaded liposomes. Next steps include evaluating the <i>in vivo</i> efficacy and safety of the liposome formulation in additional cancer models.</p> <p>Genta Inc's Genasense IV oblimersen (G3139) is under regulatory review for melanoma.</p> <p>SciBX 2(16); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.654 Published online April 23, 2009</p>	Work partially covered by pending patent; available for licensing from the Northeastern University Technology Transfer Office	<p>Ko, Y.T. <i>et al. Mol. Pharm.</i>; published online March 24, 2009; doi:10.1021/mp900006h</p> <p>Contact: Vladimir Torchilin, Northeastern University, Boston, Mass. e-mail: v.torchilin@neu.edu</p>