This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	NK cells; tumor-associated monocytes/macrophages (TAMs)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that promoting NK cell-mediated suppression of tumor-associated monocytes could help treat cancer. In mice with neuroblastomas, transfer of human monocytes and NK cells lowered the number of tumor-associated monocytes and suppressed monocyte-mediated tumor growth compared with what was seen in mice that received no NK cells. Next steps include developing methods for large-scale <i>ex vivo</i> expansion of clinical-grade NK cells from autologous and allogeneic sources.</p> <p>SciBX 2(19); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.781 Published online May 14, 2009</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Song, L. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online May 1, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI37869</p> <p>Contact: Leonid S. Metelitsa, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas e-mail: metelits@bcm.tmc.edu</p>