

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Leukemia	Survivin (BIRC5)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that a nanoliposomal formulation of C<sub>6</sub>-ceramide could help treat leukemia. In a rat model of large granular lymphocyte leukemia, nanoliposomes formulated with C<sub>6</sub>-ceramide significantly increased survival time compared with nanoliposomes formulated without C<sub>6</sub>-ceramide (<math>p &lt; 0.0001</math>). In leukemic rats that responded to C<sub>6</sub>-ceramide, survivin was lower than that in nonresponding rats and blood cell counts were similar to those in nonleukemic rats, suggesting complete remission. Next steps include testing C<sub>6</sub>-ceramide nanoliposomes in Phase I clinical trials.</p> <p><b>SciBX 3(33); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1009</b>            Published online Aug. 26, 2010</p>	<p>Patents filed by Penn State Research Foundation; licensed to Keystone Nano Inc.</p>	<p>Liu, X. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Aug. 3, 2010;            doi:10.1182/blood-2010-02-271080  <b>Contact:</b> Xin Liu, Penn State Hershey College of Medicine, Hershey, Pa.            e-mail: <a href="mailto:xliu2@hmc.psu.edu">xliu2@hmc.psu.edu</a>  <b>Contact:</b> Mark Kester, same affiliation as above            e-mail: <a href="mailto:mkester@hmc.psu.edu">mkester@hmc.psu.edu</a></p>