This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Liver cancer	Alanyl membrane aminopeptidase (ANPEP; APN; CD13)	A study in human tissue and in mice suggests that inhibiting CD13 could help treat liver cancer. In a mouse xenograft model of liver cancer, a CD13 inhibitor plus the chemotherapeutic 5-fluorouracil decreased tumor growth compared with either drug alone ($p<0.01$). Next steps could include testing CD13 inhibitors in murine xenografts derived from human hepatocellular carcinoma samples. NGR-hTNF, a recombinant fusion protein that selectively binds to CD13 from MolMed S.p.A., is in Phase II/III testing for cancer.	Patent application filed; licensing status undisclosed	Haraguchi, N. *et al. J. Clin. Invest.*; published online Aug. 9, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI42550 **Contact:** Masaki Mori, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan e-mail: mmori@gesurg.med.osaka-u.ac.jp

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