

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)	IL-6; epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR)	<p>Cell culture and mouse studies suggest that blocking inflammation could help treat erlotinib-resistant NSCLC. In nude mice injected with mutant EGFR-expressing NSCLC cells, chemically induced inflammation led to greater tumor resistance to erlotinib than no inflammation. In mice with inflammation, IL-6 antibodies decreased tumor resistance to erlotinib compared with IgG. Next steps include testing the efficacy of combined treatment using additional anti-inflammatory compounds and erlotinib to treat resistant EGFR mutant cancers.</p> <p>Tarceva erlotinib, an EGFR inhibitor, is marketed by OSI Pharmaceuticals Inc., Astellas Pharma Inc. and Roche's Genentech Inc. unit for the treatment of NSCLC and pancreatic cancer.</p> <p>At least eight companies have inhibitors of IL-6 in development.</p> <p>At least 11 other compounds are in development to target EGFR in cancer.</p> <p><b>SciBX 3(33); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1012</b>  <b>Published online Aug. 26, 2010</b></p>	Patent filed; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Yao, Z. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Aug. 16, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1009472107</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Raffaella Sordella, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y.  e-mail: <a href="mailto:sordella@cshl.edu">sordella@cshl.edu</a></p>