

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Breast cancer	Melanoma-associated chondroitin sulfate proteoglycan (MCSP; CSPG4)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that targeting CSPG4 could help treat triple-negative breast cancer. CSPG4 was expressed in 32 of 44 primary tumor samples, in 4 cell lines and in 12 metastatic lesions. In the cell lines, an anti-CSPG4 mAb inhibited cell growth, adhesion and migration compared with a control antibody or phosphate buffered saline. In a mouse lung metastasis model, the antibody caused more tumor regression than a control antibody. In a mouse orthotopic xenograft model, the antibody decreased spontaneous lung metastases and tumor recurrence compared with a control antibody. Next steps include clinical testing of the mAbs. Micromet Inc. has a bispecific T cell engager targeting CSPG4 in preclinical testing to treat melanoma.</p> <p><b>SciBX 3(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1144</b> Published online Sept. 30, 2010</p>	Patent application filed; antibody licensed by Cypress Pharmaceutical Inc.; other antibodies available for licensing	<p>Wang, X. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Natl. Cancer Inst.</i>; published online Sept. 17, 2010; doi:10.1093/jnci/djq343</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Soldano Ferrone, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Pittsburgh, Pa. e-mail: <a href="mailto:ferrones@upmc.edu">ferrones@upmc.edu</a></p>