This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Transplantation				
Graft-versus-host disease (GvHD)	Notch	Mouse studies suggest that inhibiting Notch could help prevent GvHD following hematopoietic stem cell transplant. In mice, transplantation of Notch-deprived T cells or T cell-depleted bone marrow lowered acute GvHD severity compared with wild-type T cell transplantation. In a leukemia mouse model, a Notch-deprived T cell transplant protected mice from both cancer and GvHD, whereas mice given a T cell-depleted bone marrow transplant died from cancer and mice given a wild-type T cell transplant developed GvHD. Next steps include identifying a way to block the Notch pathway after bone marrow transplant. SciBX 3(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1192 Published online Oct. 7, 2010	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Zhang, Y. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Sept. 24, 2010; doi:10.1182/blood-2010-03-271940 Contact: Ivan Maillard, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. e-mail: imaillard@umich.edu