

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Fibroblast activation protein (FAP)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that eliminating FAP-expressing cells in the tumor microenvironment could improve responses to cancer immunotherapy. In transgenic mice with conditional knockout of Fap-expressing cells, a vaccinia virus-based cancer vaccine suppressed growth of established subcutaneous tumors. Tumor growth was not suppressed in mice with Fap-expressing cells present in the tumor microenvironment.</p> <p>Next steps include identifying a way to target FAP-expressing cells in the tumor microenvironment.</p> <p>Life Science Pharmaceuticals Inc.'s f19, a chimeric antibody targeting FAP, is in Phase I testing to treat solid tumors.</p> <p>SciBX 3(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1348 Published online Nov. 18, 2010</p>	Findings unpatented; transgenic mouse permitting conditional ablation of FAP cells available for licensing	<p>Kraman, M. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Nov. 4, 2010; doi:10.1126/science.1195300</p> <p>Contact: Douglas T. Fearon, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, U.K. e-mail: dtf1000@cam.ac.uk</p>