

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Hematologic malignancies	Ubiquitin-like modifier activating enzyme 1 (UBA1)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that inhibiting UBA1 could help treat hematological malignancies. In leukemia and myeloma cell lines, small hairpin RNA against <i>UBA1</i> induced cell death compared with control shRNA. In leukemic cells, compared with normal hematopoietic cells, a 3,5-dioxopyrazolidine UBA1 inhibitor induced cell death. In a mouse model of leukemia, intraperitoneal administration of the inhibitor decreased tumor weight and volume compared with administration of buffer control. Next steps include developing second-generation analogs of the inhibitor.	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing; second-generation compounds will be available for licensing from the University Health Network business office	Xu, G. <i>et al. Blood</i> ; published online Jan. 14, 2010; doi:10.1182/blood-2009-07-231191 <b>Contact:</b> Aaron D. Schimmer, Ontario Cancer Institute, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: <a href="mailto:aaron.schimmer@utoronto.ca">aaron.schimmer@utoronto.ca</a>
		<b>SciBX 3(5); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.147</b> Published online Feb. 4, 2010		