

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Melanoma	CTLA-4 (CD152); PD-1 receptor (PDCD1; PD-1; CD279); FMS-like tyrosine kinase 3 (FLT3; CD135)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that combined blockade of CTLA-4 and PD-1 plus a vaccine of irradiated melanoma cells expressing the FLT3 ligand could help treat melanoma. In mice challenged with melanoma cells, the vaccine plus anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 antibodies more effectively promoted tumor-free survival than any of the three agents alone.</p> <p>The anti-CTLA-4 compound ipilimumab with the anti-PD-1 compound MDX-1106 is in Phase I testing in advanced melanoma patients.</p> <p>Ipilimumab (MDX-010; BMS-734016), from Medarex Inc. and Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., is in clinical testing for various cancers. MDX-1106 (ONO04538), from Medarex and Ono Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., is also in clinical testing for various cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 3(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.245 Published online Feb. 25, 2010</p>	Individual agents all patented; licensing status unavailable	<p>Curran, M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Feb. 15, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0915174107 Contact: James P. Allison, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y. e-mail: allisonj@mskcc.org</p>