This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	Lymphotoxin- β (LT β); LT β receptor (LTBR)	A study in mice and in patient samples suggests that blocking LT β expression in B cells could help delay onset of castration-resistant prostate cancer. In mice, B cell-specific LT β deficiency delayed the growth of castration-resistant prostate cancer compared with T cell-specific LT β deficiency. In mice, small interfering RNA-mediated LT β receptor knockdown and a LT β decoy receptor both delayed the growth of castration-resistant prostate cancer compared with control protein or siRNA treatment. Next steps include elucidating the signaling pathways involved in the growth of castration-resistant prostate cancer.	Patent pending covering targeting of B cells for prostate cancer treatment; unavailable for licensing	Ammirante, M. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online March 10, 2010; doi:10.1038/nature08782 Contact: Michael Karin, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: karinoffice@ucsd.edu
<i>SciBX</i> 3(12); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.373 Published online March 25, 2010				