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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Kaposi's sarcoma	AXL receptor tyrosine kinase (AXL; UFO)	*In vitro* and mouse studies suggest that inhibition of AXL could help treat Kaposi's sarcoma. In human Kaposi's sarcoma cell lines and primary tumors, as compared to normal cells, *AXL* was overexpressed. In xenograft mice bearing Kaposi's sarcoma tumors, human anti-AXL antibody treatment reduced tumor growth compared with control antibody treatment. Next steps could include testing whether the anti-AXL antibody inhibits angiogenesis and/or metastasis of Kaposi's sarcoma tumors. PTC Therapeutics Inc.'s PTC299, an inhibitor of VEGF synthesis, is in Phase I/II testing to treat AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma. ***SciBX* 3(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.619** **Published online May 20, 2010**	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Liu, R. *et al. Blood*; published online May 4, 2010; doi:10.1182/blood-2009-12-257154 **Contact:** Parkash S. Gill, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: parkashg@usc.edu