

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Acute myelogenous leukemia (AML)	PTK7 protein tyrosine kinase 7 (PTK7)	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest that inhibiting PTK7 could help treat AML. About 72% of blood samples from 257 AML patients expressed PTK7, which was associated with a decreased response to anthracycline-based chemotherapy and reduced leukemia-free survival compared with samples that did not express PTK7. In cultured leukemia cells expressing PTK7, cell migration, survival and resistance to anthracycline-induced apoptosis were increased compared with those in cells not expressing PTK7. Also in PTK7-expressing cells, anti-PTK7 small hairpin RNA reversed the oncogenic phenotype compared with control shRNA. Next steps could include testing the effects of PTK7 inhibition in animals.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Prebet, T. <i>et al. Blood</i> ; published online June 17, 2010; doi:10.1182/blood-2010-01-262352 Contact: Jean-Paul Borg, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM), Marseille, France e-mail: jean-paul.borg@inserm.fr
<p>SciBX 3(27); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.818 Published online July 15, 2010</p>				