

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Glutathione; histone deacetylase (HDAC)	<p>Studies in patient samples and in cell culture suggest that blocking production of the antioxidant glutathione using β-phenylethyl isothiocyanate could boost the efficacy of HDAC inhibitors. In a human lymphoma cell line, β-phenylethyl isothiocyanate plus the HDAC inhibitor Zolinza vorinostat increased cell death compared with either compound alone. In samples from seven patients with acute myelogenous leukemia (AML), the combination increased cell death compared with either compound alone. Next steps could include testing marketed HDAC inhibitors and β-phenylethyl isothiocyanate in cancer patients. β-Phenylethyl isothiocyanate is a small molecule derived from cruciferous vegetables.</p> <p>Merck & Co Inc. markets Zolinza vorinostat to treat cutaneous T cell lymphoma (CTCL).</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 3(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.854 Published online July 22, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Hu, Y. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online June 21, 2010; doi:10.1182/blood-2009-11-256354</p> <p>Contact: Guillermo Garcia-Manero, The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas e-mail: ggarciam@mdanderson.org</p>