

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hematology				
Myeloproliferative disorder	Janus kinase-2 (JAK-2)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified a 1-amino-5<i>H</i>-pyrido[4,3-<i>b</i>] indol-4-carboxamide-based JAK-2 inhibitor that could help treat myeloproliferative disorders. <i>In vitro</i>, the compound inhibited JAK-2 with an IC₅₀ value of 0.8 nM. In a mouse model of polycythemia vera, the oral compound produced dose-dependent decreases in spleen weight and hematocrit. Next steps could include evaluating the JAK-2 inhibitor in additional types of myeloproliferative disorders.</p> <p>Ruxolitinib, an oral JAK-1 and JAK-2 inhibitor from Incyte Corp. and Novartis AG, is in Phase III testing to treat myeloproliferative disorders and Phase II trials to treat relapsed and refractory leukemia.</p> <p>At least five other companies have compounds that inhibit JAK-2 in Phase II testing or earlier to treat myeloproliferative disorders.</p> <p>SciBX 4(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1118 Published online Oct. 13, 2011</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Lim, J. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Sept. 26, 2011; doi:10.1021/jm200909u Contact: Jongwon Lim, Merck & Co. Inc., Boston, Mass. e-mail: jongwon_lim@merck.com</p>