

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	CXC chemokine receptor 4 (CXCR4; NPY3R); chemokine CXC motif ligand 12 (CXCL12; SDF-1)	<p>Mouse studies suggest CXCL12 could help treat metastatic cancer. Previous studies have shown that tumor cells migrate toward tissues expressing higher levels of CXCL12 or its receptor, CXCR4. In mouse xenograft models of metastatic colon cancer and melanoma, CXCL12 lowered metastasis compared with vehicle. Next steps include stabilizing CXCL12 and evaluating delivery routes and timing.</p> <p>Sanofi's Mozobil plerixafor (AMD3100), a CXCR4 antagonist, is approved to increase mobilization of hematopoietic stem cells to the bloodstream for collection and subsequent autologous transplantation to treat multiple myeloma (MM) and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL).</p> <p>At least four other companies have CXCR4 or CXCL12 antagonists in clinical testing for cancer or hematological indications.</p> <p>SciBX 4(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1202 Published online Nov. 3, 2011</p>	Patent applications filed and issued; available for licensing	<p>Drury, L.J. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Oct. 11, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1101133108</p> <p>Contact: Michael B. Dwinell, Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wis. e-mail: mdwinell@mcw.edu</p>