

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Proteasome	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified a small molecule proteasome inhibitor that could help treat cancer. <i>In vitro</i>, the small molecule b-AP15 bound to the regulatory 19S subunit of the proteasome and blocked its deubiquitinating activity. In four xenograft mouse models of solid tumors, b-AP15 decreased tumor growth compared with vehicle control. In a mouse model of acute myelogenous leukemia (AML), b-AP15 induced remission in 8 of 10 mice, whereas vehicle did not induce remission. Next steps include lead optimization.</p> <p>Takeda Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. and Johnson & Johnson market Velcade bortezomib, a proteasome inhibitor, to treat multiple myeloma (MM) and mantle cell lymphoma (MCL). Carfilzomib, a proteasome inhibitor from Onyx Pharmaceuticals Inc. and Ono Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., is in Phase III testing to treat MM and Phase II trials to treat solid tumors.</p> <p>SciBX 4(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1262 Published online Nov. 17, 2011</p>	Patent application filed; licensed to Vivolux AB	<p>D'Arcy, P. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Nov. 6, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2536</p> <p>Contact: Stig Linder, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden e-mail: stig.linder@ki.se</p>