

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Ubiquitin specific peptidase 7 (USP7; HAUSP)	<p>Cell culture and mouse studies identified USP7-inhibiting peptides that could help treat cancer. In cultured lymphoma cells, cell-permeable, USP7-inhibiting peptides resulted in apoptosis compared with a non-cell permeable control peptide. In a xenograft mouse model of lymphoma, the USP7-inhibiting peptides induced tumor regression compared with control peptide. Next steps include increasing peptide stability, identifying small molecule mimics of the peptides and testing candidates in mouse models of cancer.</p> <p>Hybrigenics S.A. has HBX 19,818 and HBX 41,108, inhibitors of USP7, in preclinical development for chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) and cancer, respectively.</p> <p>SciBX 4(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1290 Published online Dec. 1, 2011</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing from the University of Southern California	<p>Lee, H.-R. <i>et al. Nat. Struct. Mol. Biol.</i>; published online Nov. 6, 2011; doi:10.1038/nsmb.2142</p> <p>Contact: Jae U. Jung, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: jaeujung@usc.edu</p> <p>Contact: Myung Hee Kim, Korea Research Institute of Bioscience & Biotechnology, Daejeon, South Korea e-mail: mhk8n@kribb.re.kr</p> <p>Contact: Tae-Kwang Oh, same affiliation as above e-mail: otk@kribb.re.kr</p>