This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hematology				
Sickle cell disease	Not applicable	A study in mice suggests pomalidomide could help treat sickle cell disease. In a mouse model of sickle cell disease, pomalidomide led to a similar increase in fetal hemoglobin expression as the marketed drug hydroxyurea without the latter's side effect of decreased erythropoiesis. Next steps include starting a Phase I study of pomalidomide in patients with sickle cell disease and evaluating the immunomodulatory effects of pomalidomide in the sickle cell mouse model. Celgene Corp.'s pomalidomide (CC-4047), an analog of thalidomide, is in Phase III testing for myeloproliferative disorders and Phase II trials for multiple myeloma (MM). Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. markets hydroxyurea capsules for sickle cell disease. SciBX 4(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.597 Published online May 26, 2011	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Meiler, S.E. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online May 2, 2011; doi:10.1182/blood-2010-11-319137 Contact: Steffen E. Meiler, Georgia Health Sciences University, Augusta, Ga. e-mail: smeiler@georgiahealth.edu