

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	Integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$ (CD51/CD61)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest an anti-integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$ antibody fragment could help treat breast cancer. <i>In vitro</i>, a humanized single-chain variable antibody fragment (scFv) inhibited integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$ activity compared with a control protein. In mice with breast xenograft tumors, the scFv decreased tumor growth compared with a control protein. Future studies could include testing the scFv in animal models of other cancers.</p> <p>Intetumumab (CNTO 95), a human antibody against integrin α_v (CD51) that targets integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$ from Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. and Johnson & Johnson, is in Phase II testing to treat melanoma and prostate cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 4(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.650 Published online June 9, 2011</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Liu, D. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i>; published online May 23, 2011; doi:10.1074/jbc.M110.211847</p> <p>Contact: Yigang Tong, Beijing Institute of Microbiology and Epidemiology, Beijing, China e-mail: tong.yigang@gmail.com</p>