

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	Monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 (MCP-1; CCL2); CC chemokine receptor 2 (CCR2; CD192)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting CCL2-CCR2 signaling could help prevent breast cancer metastasis. In xenograft mice bearing human breast cancer cells, an anti-CCL2 antibody increased survival compared with saline ($p < 0.001$). In multiple mouse models of breast cancer, an anti-CCL2 antibody prevented the recruitment of Ccr2-expressing inflammatory monocytes and decreased metastatic burden compared with control antibody ($p = 0.016$ and $p = 0.006$, respectively). Next steps include further elucidating the sequence of events in the metastasis cascade.</p> <p>CNTO 888, a HuCAL (Human Combinatorial Antibody Library) antibody against CCL2 from Johnson & Johnson, is in Phase II testing to treat prostate cancer and idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and in Phase I testing for solid tumors.</p> <p>At least four companies have CCR2 antagonists in clinical trials for noncancer indications.</p> <p>SciBX 4(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.704 Published online June 23, 2011</p>	Patent application filed by Johnson & Johnson covering anti-CCL2 antibodies and their uses in multiple indications including cancer; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Qian, B.-Z. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online June 8, 2011; doi:10.1038/nature10138</p> <p>Contact: Jeffrey W. Pollard, Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: pollard@aecom.yu.edu</p>