This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Leukemia	Myeloid leukemia cell differentiation protein (MCL1)	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies identified a small molecule MCL1 inhibitor that could help treat leukemia. A competitive screen identified the small molecule MCL1 inhibitor molecule 1 (MIM1) as an MCL1 inhibitor. In MCL1-dependent acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) cells, MIM1 induced caspase activity and decreased viability compared with vehicle. In ALL cells expressing both MCL1 and Bcl-x_L, the B cell lymphoma 2 (BCL-2; BCL2) family inhibitor ABT-737 plus MIM1 led to synergistic cytotoxicity and decreased cell viability compared with either treatment alone. Ongoing work includes optimizing the potency of MIM1. ABT-737 is a research reagent from Abbott Laboratories.</p> <p>SciBX 5(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1029 Published online Oct. 4, 2012</p>	Patent applications filed covering screening strategy and compounds identified by the screen, including MIM1; available for licensing	<p>Cohen, N.A. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i>; published online Sept. 21, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2012.07.018 Contact: Loren D. Walensky, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Mass. e-mail: loren_walensky@dfci.harvard.edu</p>