

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Autophagy	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest dimeric chloroquine analogs could help treat cancer more effectively than hydroxychloroquine. In human glioblastoma, colon cancer and melanoma cell lines, a dimeric analog of chloroquine inhibited autophagy at low micromolar IC₅₀ values and induced greater cell death than hydroxychloroquine. In mouse xenograft models of melanoma and colon cancer, the dimeric analog inhibited tumor growth better than hydroxychloroquine. Ongoing work includes <i>in vivo</i> testing of the dimeric analog in combination with undisclosed cancer therapeutics. Hydroxychloroquine, a generic analog of chloroquine, is approved to treat or prevent malaria and to treat rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE).</p> <p>SciBX 5(19); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.490 Published online May 10, 2012</p>	Patented; available for licensing or partnering	<p>McAfee, Q. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online May 7, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1118193109 Contact: Ravi K. Amaravadi, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: ravi.amaravadi@uphs.upenn.edu Contact: Jeffrey D. Winkler, same affiliation as above e-mail: winkler@sas.upenn.edu</p>