

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	MHC class I polypeptide-related sequence B (MICB); killer cell lectin-like receptor subfamily K member 1 (KLRK1; CD314; NKG2D)	<p>Mouse studies suggest reducing circulating MICB levels could help treat cancer. In a mouse model of prostate cancer, expression of soluble human MICB, which is a ligand for the NK cell-activating receptor NKG2D, decreased peripheral NK cell levels and increased tumor growth and metastases compared with no MICB expression. In the model, a neutralizing antibody against MICB increased NK cell levels compared with an IgG control. Next steps include developing a humanized antibody targeting soluble MICB.</p> <p>SciBX 6(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1123 Published online Oct. 17, 2013</p>	Three patent applications filed; two available for licensing	<p>Liu, G. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Sept. 9, 2013; doi:10.1172/JCI69369 Contact: Jennifer D. Wu, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: wuj@u.washington.edu</p>