

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)	Angiotensinogen (AGT); angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE)	<p>Patient tissue and mouse studies suggest ACE inhibitors could help treat NSCLC in patients with angiotensin II-overexpressing tumors. In a histological analysis of biopsies from 44 patients with NSCLC, 16 showed increased expression of the angiotensin II precursor AGT. In a genetic mouse model for NSCLC, the ACE inhibitor Vaseretic enalapril, which inhibits AGT cleavage and angiotensin II production, slowed tumor progression and increased survival compared with a control compound. Next steps include testing enalapril in combination with cancer therapeutics and investigating the mechanisms of enalapril resistance.</p> <p>Vaseretic enalapril is marketed by Merck & Co. Inc. to treat hypertension and congestive heart failure (CHF).</p> <p>SciBX 6(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.137 Published online Feb. 14, 2013</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Cortez-Retamozo, V. <i>et al. Immunity</i>; published online Jan. 17, 2013; doi:10.1016/j.immuni.2012.10.015</p> <p>Contact: Mikael J. Pittet, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass. e-mail: mpittet@mgh.harvard.edu</p>