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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Colon cancer	Retinoid X receptor-γ (RXRG; RXRγ)	*In vitro* and mouse studies suggest spironolactone or RXRγ agonists could help treat colon cancer. In colon cancer cells, the generic mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist spironolactone increased levels of killer cell lectin-like receptor subfamily K member 1 (KLRK1; CD314; NKG2D) ligands, which led to greater tumor cell lysis by NK cells than vehicle. In mouse xenograft models of colon cancer, spironolactone plus NK cells suppressed tumor growth and metastasis, whereas either treatment alone did not. In culture, genetic depletion of the mineralocorticoid receptor did not alter the effect of spironolactone on tumor cells, but siRNAs targeting RXRγ did block the effects of spironolactone. Next steps include identifying RXRγ agonists or RXRα (RXRA) antagonists. *SciBX* 6(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1384 Published online Dec. 19, 2013	Provisional patent application filed; available for licensing	Leung, W.-H. *et al. J. Exp. Med.*; published online Nov. 4, 2013; doi:10.1084/jem.20122292 **Contact:** Wing Leung, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tenn. e-mail: wing.leung@stjude.org