This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Toll-like receptor 5 (TLR5)	<p>Mouse studies suggest liver-targeted TLR5 agonists could help prevent cancer metastasis to that organ and radiation-induced damage to healthy tissues. In mouse models for metastatic cancer, the TLR5 agonist CBLB502 inhibited growth of tumor cells in the liver and decreased radiation-induced death of hematopoietic progenitor cells compared with saline. In the model, blocking the liver's blood supply inhibited the radioprotective effect of CBLB502, suggesting the liver is the key mediator of the TLR5-dependent effects. Next steps could include designing liver-targeted TLR5 agonists. Cleveland BioLabs Inc., which provided funding for the study, has CBLB502 in Phase I testing to treat various cancers. The compound has completed Phase IIa testing to treat acute radiation syndrome.</p> <p>SciBX 6(19); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.466 Published online May 16, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Burdelya, L.G. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online April 29, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1222805110 Contact: Andrei V. Gudkov, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, N.Y. e-mail: andrei.gudkov@roswellpark.org</p>