

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Epidermal growth factor receptor 1 (EGFR1; ErbB1; HER1); HER2 (EGFR2; ErbB2; neu); HER3 (EGFR3; ErbB3); VEGF	Tumor cell and mouse studies suggest tetravalent antibodies that target four different antigens could help treat cancers resistant to HER-targeted therapies. A tetravalent IgG-like molecule with two antibody variable domains on each arm bound and inhibited HER1, HER3, HER2 and VEGF. In multiple tumor cell lines, the tetravalent molecule caused more potent growth inhibition than antibodies against single receptors. In a mouse model of cancer resistant to HER-targeted therapies, the tetravalent molecule causes more potent tumor inhibition than bispecific antibodies targeting HER1 plus HER3, or VEGF plus HER2. Next steps include exploring other methods to produce tetravalent antibodies.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Hu, S. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i> ; published online Nov. 4, 2014; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-14-1670 Contact: Shi Hu, The Second Military Medical University, Shanghai, China e-mail: hus@aftertumor.com
		SciBX 7(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1402 Published online Dec. 18, 2014		