This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Inhibitor of apoptosis (IAP); toll-like receptor 3 (TLR3); TLR9	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest combining IAP inhibitors with oncolytic viruses or TLR agonists could help treat cancer. In human and mouse cancer cell lines, an IAP antagonist plus an oncolytic virus, TLR3 agonist or TLR9 agonist decreased cell viability synergistically compared with any agent alone. In mice with mammary or xenograft colorectal tumors, the combination therapy decreased tumor growth and increased survival compared with any agent alone. Ongoing work includes discussing plans with undisclosed partners for a Phase I trial of an IAP inhibitor and an oncolytic virus in patients with cancer. At least six companies have IAP inhibitors in Phase II or earlier development to treat cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 7(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.168 Published online Feb. 13, 2014</p>	Patent application filed by Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Beug, S.T. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i>; published online Jan. 26, 2014; doi:10.1038/nbt.2806</p> <p>Contact: Robert G. Korneluk, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada e-mail: bob@arc.cheo.ca</p>