

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Acute myelogenous leukemia (AML)	SWI/SNF-related matrix-associated actin-dependent regulator of chromatin subfamily a member 4 (SMARCA4; BRG1)	<p>Studies in cell culture and mice suggest inhibiting BRG1 could help treat AML. In a mouse model of AML, conditional <i>Brg1</i> knockout in hematopoietic cells decreased leukemia growth compared with wild-type <i>Brg1</i> expression and prolonged survival. In mice, <i>Brg1</i> knockout did not affect numbers of long-term repopulating hematopoietic stem cells in bone marrow but did reduce their proliferation potential. In AML cell lines, shRNA against <i>BRG1</i> decreased proliferation and survival compared with a control shRNA. Next steps could include further characterizing the role of BRG1 in human AML.</p> <p>SciBX 7(7); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.193 Published online Feb. 20, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Buscarlet, M. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Jan. 29, 2014; doi:10.1182/blood-2013-02-483495 Contact: Julie A. Lessard, Institute for Research in Immunology and Cancer, Montreal, Quebec, Canada e-mail: j.lessard.1@umontreal.ca</p>