This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Casitas B cell lymphoma-b (CBL-B); TYRO3 protein tyrosine kinase (TYRO3; SKY); AXL receptor tyrosine kinase (AXL; UFO); c-Mer proto-oncogene tyrosine kinase (MERTK)	*In vitro* and mouse studies suggest TYRO3, AXL and MERTK receptor (TAM receptor) inhibitors could help prevent metastasis by activating NK cells. In mice, deletion of *Cbl-b* increased NK cell antitumor activity compared with no deletion. *In vitro* assays identified the TAM receptors as substrates for CBL-B's E3 ubiquitin ligase activity. In multiple mouse models of metastasis, a small molecule inhibitor of the TAM receptors decreased metastasis compared with vehicle. Next steps include developing an siRNA-based clinical candidate to target *CBL-B*. Rigel Pharmaceuticals Inc. and partner BerGenBio A/S have a small molecule inhibitor of AXL in Phase I or earlier testing to treat various cancers. Tolero Pharmaceuticals Inc. and partner Oribase Pharma have AXL inhibitors in preclinical development to treat cancer. Qurient Co. Ltd. has the AXL inhibitor Q-4 in preclinical development for cancer. ***SciBX*** **7(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.281** **Published online March 13, 2014**	Patent filed by Lead Discovery Center GmbH and Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry covering a chemical series of TAM receptor inhibitors; licensed to Qurient	Paolino, M. *et al. Nature*; published online Feb. 19, 2014; doi:10.1038/nature12998 **Contact:** Josef M. Penninger, Institute of Molecular Biotechnology of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria e-mail: josef.penninger@imba.oeaw.ac.at