

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Receptor activator of NF- κ B ligand (RANKL; TNFSF11)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting RANKL could help promote antitumor immunity. In a mouse model of antigen-expressing melanoma, an anti-RANKL antibody prevented thymic depletion of melanoma-specific T cells, and it increased survival compared with an isotype control. Next steps include measuring the antigen-specific T cell response in patients with cancer treated with an anti-RANKL antibody. Amgen Inc. and Daiichi Sankyo Co. Ltd. market the anti-RANKL mAb Xgeva denosumab to treat bone cancer and osteoporosis. At least two other companies have anti-RANKL antibodies in Phase I testing for the same indications.</p> <p>SciBX 7(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.640 Published online June 5, 2014</p>	Patent application filed; unavailable for licensing	<p>Khan, I.S. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online April 21, 2014; doi:10.1084/jem.20131889 Contact: Mark S. Anderson, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: manderson@diabetes.ucsf.edu</p>