

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Programmed cell death 1 (PDCD1; PD-1; CD279)	<p>Mouse studies suggest PD-1 inhibitors could help improve the efficacy of dendritic cell (DC)-activating cancer vaccines. In a mouse model of melanoma, an experimental, DC-activating cancer vaccine plus an anti-PD-1 mAb caused tumor regression, whereas vaccine alone only inhibited tumor growth. Next steps could include evaluating the combination in a clinical trial.</p> <p>Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. and Ono Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. have the PD-1 antibody nivolumab under FDA review to treat advanced melanoma and non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).</p> <p>Merck & Co. Inc. has the PD-1 antibody MK-3475 (formerly lambrolizumab) under FDA review to treat advanced melanoma.</p> <p>At least four other companies have antibodies against PD-1 in Phase II or earlier testing to treat cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 7(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.701 Published online June 19, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Fu, J. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online May 8, 2014; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-13-2685</p> <p>Contact: Young J. Kim, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Md. e-mail: ykim76@jhmi.edu</p>