

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Butyrophilin subfamily 3 member A1 (BTN3A1)	Cell culture studies suggest a pivaloyloxymethyl-protected phosphoantigen prodrug could help treat cancer. <i>In vitro</i> , the phosphoantigen prodrug induced potent expansion of human peripheral blood V γ 9V δ 2 T cells, which are known to attack cancer cells. In a human lymphoma cell line, the phosphoantigen prodrug increased V γ 9V δ 2 T cell-mediated lysis compared with a nonprodrug phosphoantigen. In cell culture, phosphoantigens were shown to bind to the intracellular region of BTN3A1 in V γ 9V δ 2 T cells. Next steps include doing larger SAR studies to identify drug-like leads and developing additional <i>in vivo</i> assays to characterize compound activity. SciBX 7(33); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.978 Published online Aug. 28, 2014	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Hsiao, C.-H.C. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online July 24, 2014; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2014.06.006 Contact: Andrew J. Wiemer, University of Connecticut, Storrs, Conn. e-mail: andrew.wiemer@uconn.edu