This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Metastatic cancer	Prosaposin (PSAP)	<p>A study in cell culture and in mice suggests that PSAP could be used to prevent tumor metastases. In cultured tumor-associated fibroblasts, PSAP increased levels of the antiangiogenic peptide thrombospondin-1 and enhanced the activity of the tumor suppressor p53 compared with no treatment. In mice, prostate cancer cells with small hairpin RNA knockdown of PSAP developed into metastatic tumors, whereas control prostate cancer cells did not. Next steps include identifying the fragment of PSAP responsible for the protein's antimetastatic activity.</p> <p>SciBX 2(27); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1074 Published online July 16, 2009</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing from Children's Hospital Boston	<p>Kang, S.-Y. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online June 23, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0903120106</p> <p>Contact: Randolph S. Watnick, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: randy.watnick@childrens.harvard.edu</p>