This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Topoisomerase I (TOP1)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that quinolone and naphthyridine derivatives of camptothecin can inhibit TOP1 to help treat cancer. In human cancer cell lines, the derivatives had cytotoxic activity. In mouse xenograft models, the most potent inhibitor significantly suppressed tumor growth compared with no treatment ($p < 0.05$). Next steps include further optimization of the compounds.</p> <p>At least 13 companies have TOP1 inhibitors in development stages ranging from preclinical to marketed to treat various cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 2(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1339 Published online Sept. 10, 2009</p>	Findings patented in China; available for licensing	<p>You, Q. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Aug. 28, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900469e</p> <p>Contact: Ji-Wang Chern, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan e-mail: jwchern@ntu.edu.tw</p> <p>Contact: Qi-Dong You, China Pharmaceutical University, Nanjing, China e-mail: youqidong@gmail.com</p>