This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	MicroRNA-200 (miRNA-200)	<p>A study in mice suggests that increasing expression of miRNA-200 could help prevent cancer metastasis. miRNA profiling showed downregulated expression of miRNA-200 in mouse lung cancer cells undergoing epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition, which is a developmental precursor to cancer metastasis. All mice injected with lung cancer cells overexpressing miRNA-200 family member miR-200b were free of metastases, whereas 75% of mice that received unmodified cancer cells developed metastases. Next steps include evaluating the prognostic value of miRNA-200 family members in cancer metastasis and confirming their regulatory role on epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition in patient tumor samples.</p> <p>SciBX 2(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1398 Published online Sept. 24, 2009</p>	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Gibbons, D.L. <i>et al. Genes Dev.</i>; published online Sept. 15, 2009; doi:10.1101/gad.1820209</p> <p>Contact: Jonathan M. Kurie, The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas e-mail: jkurie@mdanderson.org</p>