This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	Integrin α_6 (ITGA6; VLA-6; CD49f); NK3 homeobox 1 (NKX3-1)	A genomewide association study identified new genetic loci that could help predict susceptibility to prostate cancer. A total of 7 SNPs on chromosomes 2, 4, 8, 11 and 22 significantly correlated with prostate cancer. Two loci were within the <i>ITGA6</i> and <i>NKX3-1</i> genes. None of the seven loci correlated with disease severity, suggesting they play roles in the early stages of disease development rather than in disease progression. Future studies could include additional genotyping and functional analysis of each risk locus.	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Eeles, R. <i>et al. Nat. Genet.</i> ; published online Sept. 20, 2009; doi:10.1038/ng.450 Contact: Rosalind A. Eeles, The Institute of Cancer Research, Sutton, Surrey, U.K. e-mail: Rosalind.Eeles@icr.ac.uk
<i>SciBX</i> 2(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1404 Published online Sept. 24, 2009				