This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	Atypical protein kinase C (aPKC); IL-6	<i>In vitro</i> human and mouse studies suggest that inhibiting aPKC or IL-6 could help treat hormone refractory prostate cancer (HRPC). aPKC mRNA was more highly expressed in human prostate cancer tissue than in normal prostate tissue from the same patients. In cultured prostate cancer cells and in prostate cancer xenografts, aPKC small interfering RNA inhibited cell growth. Prostate cancer cells expressing aPKC also showed upregulation of IL-6, suggesting that aPKC enhances IL-6 production. Next steps include testing an anti-IL-6 receptor antibody in prostate cancer cells or xenografts in nude mice. SciBX 2(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1472 Published online Oct. 8, 2009	Patent application filed; unavailable for licensing	Ishiguro, H. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Aug. 31, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0907044106 Contact: Hiroji Uemura, Yokohama City University, Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan e-mail: hu0428@med.yokohama-cu.ac.jp