This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer; head and neck cancer	v-myb myeloblastosis viral oncogene homolog (avian) (MYB; c-myb); <i>nuclear factor I/B</i> (NFIB)	Studies in primary tumors and in cell cultures suggest that inhibiting the <i>MYB-NFIB</i> fusion gene could help treat adenoid cystic carcinomas of the breast and head and neck. The <i>MYB-NFIB</i> fusion gene was identified in all of the tested primary adenoid cystic carcinomas. In human adenoid cystic carcinoma cell lines and tissues, the fusion gene induced overexpression of MYB target genes involved in cell adhesion, cell proliferation and angiogenesis compared with that in normal cells and tissues. Ongoing work includes screening larger cohorts of cancer patients for the <i>MYB-NFIB</i> fusion gene and developing a mouse model of cancers driven by the fusion gene. SciBX 2(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1496 Published online Oct. 15, 2009	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Persson, M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Oct. 12, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0909114106 Contact: Göran Stenman, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden e-mail: goran.stenman@llcr.med.gu.se