This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	MAP kinase 1 (MAPK1; ERK-2)	SAR studies identified a pyrimidylpyrrole-based ERK-2 inhibitor that could help treat cancer. The compound, which is an analog of an aminopyrimidine-based ERK inhibitor, had subnanomolar potency, good oral bioavailability and specificity for ERK-2. Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc. did not disclose the status of the compound, but next steps could include <i>in vivo</i> testing. SciBX 2(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1501 Published online Oct. 15, 2009	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Aronov, A. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Sept. 22, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900630q Contact: Alex M. Aronov, Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc., Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: alex_aronov@vrtx.com