This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Diagnostics				
Genetic disorders	<i>Dihydroorotate dehydrogenase (DHODH)</i>	Exome sequencing identified a causal gene for Miller syndrome and could be used in other genetic disorders to help predict disease risk. Sequencing only the protein coding regions, or exomes, of four Miller syndrome patients and eight healthy individuals identified mutations in <i>DHODH</i> that were associated with the disease. Miller syndrome is a rare disorder that causes facial and limb abnormalities. The association was validated in a screen of three additional, unrelated families with Miller syndrome. Next steps include applying exome sequencing in disorders with more complex genetic causes.	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Ng, S. <i>et al. Nat. Genet.</i> ; published online Nov. 13, 2009; doi:10.1038/ng.499 Contact: Michael Bamshad, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: mbamshad@u.washington.edu Contact: Jay Shendure, same affiliation as above e-mail: shendure@u.washington.edu
<i>SciBX</i> 2(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1760 Published online Dec. 17, 2009				