This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Colorectal cancer	Caudal type homeobox 1 (CDX1); keratin 20 (KRT20; CK20)	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest that enhancing CDX1 activity could help treat colorectal cancer. In 13 of 68 colorectal cancer cell lines, CDX1 expression was low or absent and correlated with KRT20 expression, a marker of intestinal differentiation. In one of the colorectal cancer lines, CDX1 was shown to bind to two sites within the KRT20 promoter, suggesting KRT20 expression is directly regulated by CDX1. In addition, normal intestinal tissues showed approximate colocalization of CDX1 and KRT20 in the crypt. Next steps could include analyzing CDX1 and KRT20 expression in colorectal cancer tissues.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Chan, C. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Jan. 26, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0812904106 Contact: Walter F. Bodmer, University of Oxford, Oxford, U.K. e-mail: walter.bodmer@hertford.ox.ac.uk
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