This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/athway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	WD repeat containing, antisense to TP53 (WRAP53)	<p>Studies in cell culture suggest that upregulating WRAP53, an endogenous antisense transcript of p53, could be useful for treating cancer. In human osteosarcoma and colon carcinoma cell lines, small interfering RNA knockdown of WRAP53 decreased p53 mRNA and protein levels compared with those seen in controls. In human breast cancer cells, overexpression of WRAP53 increased p53 levels and caused p53-induced apoptosis compared with what was seen in cells treated with empty control vector. Next steps include developing therapeutic approaches to activate WRAP53 and thus boost p53-dependent apoptosis in cancer cells.</p> <p>SciBX 2(9); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.352 Published online March 5, 2009</p>	Patented; unlicensed	<p>Mammoto, A. <i>et al. Mol. Cell</i>; published online Feb. 26, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.molcel.2009.01.028</p> <p>Contact: Marianne Farnebo, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden e-mail: marianne.farnebo@ki.se</p>