This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Retinoblastoma 1 (RB1; pRB)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that RB1 could help treat cancer by improving responses to chemotherapy. In p53-defective human glioblastoma cells, RB1 bound the transcription factor E2F1 and induced formation of a proapoptotic RB1-E2F1 complex in response to doxorubicin or other DNA-damaging agents. Formation of the complex led to activation of proapoptotic genes and repression of cell cycle-regulating genes. Next steps could include studying RB1-dependent apoptosis in other cancer cell lines and xenograft mouse models.</p> <p>SciBX 2(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.396 Published online March 12, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Ianari, A. <i>et al. Cell</i>; published online March 2, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2009.01.026 Contact: Jacqueline A. Lees, David H. Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: jalees@mit.edu Contact: Alberto Gulino, La Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy e-mail: alberto.gulino@uniroma1.it</p>