This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Pancreatic cancer	Partner and localizer of BRCA2 (PALB2)	A gene sequencing study suggests that mutations in PALB2 could be used as a marker for susceptibility to familial pancreatic cancer. In a cohort of 96 patients, 3 had a truncating mutation in PALB2. An earlier study showed no such mutations in 1,084 healthy individuals. Next steps include isolating the disease-causing mutations in PALB2. SciBX 2(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.446 Published online March 19, 2009	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Jones, S. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online March 5, 2009; doi:10.1126/science.1171202 Contact: Alison P. Klein, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, Md. e-mail: aklein1@jhmi.edu