This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML)	BCR-ABL tyrosine kinase	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies suggest that disrupting BCR-ABL protein complexes could help treat CML. Tandem affinity purification of the BCR-ABL protein complex identified seven proteins that are highly associated with BCR-ABL. In CML cells, kinase inhibitors disrupted some of the interactions between BCR-ABL and the seven proteins, suggesting that therapeutics targeting those interactions could potentially help treat CML. Next steps include targeting either the enzymatic functions or the protein-protein interactions in combination with kinase inhibitors in cellular systems and mouse models of CML. At least seven companies have BCR-ABL tyrosine kinase inhibitors in development stages ranging from clinical to marketed to treat CML.</p> <p>SciBX 2(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.617 Published online April 16, 2009</p>	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Brehme, M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online April 13, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0900653106</p> <p>Contact: Giulio Superti-Furga, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria e-mail: gsuperti@cemm.oeaw.ac.at</p>