This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Histone deacetylase (HDAC); HDAC1; HDAC2; HDAC6; HDAC8	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies suggest that a class of boronic acid-based HDAC inhibitors could help treat cancer. Three of the compounds inhibited HDAC1, HDAC2, HDAC6 and HDAC8 activity <i>in vitro</i> and total HDAC activity in nuclear extracts of human cervical cancer cells at low nanomolar concentrations. The lead compound inhibited growth in 10 cancer cell lines, including stomach, breast, colon, lung and prostate. Ongoing efforts are seeking to identify better inhibitors of specific HDACs.</p> <p>Merck & Co. Inc.'s HDAC inhibitor Zolinza vorinostat is marketed to treat cutaneous T cell lymphoma (CTCL).</p> <p>TopoTarget A/S's small molecule HDAC inhibitor belinostat is in Phase III testing to treat T cell lymphoma.</p> <p>Novartis AG's pan-deacetylase inhibitor panobinostat (LBH589) is in Phase II/III testing to treat CTCL.</p> <p>SciBX 2(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.695 Published online April 30, 2009</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Suzuki, N. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online April 14, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900125m</p> <p>Contact: Naoki Miyata, Nagoya City University, Nagoya, Aichi, Japan e-mail: miyata-n@phar.nagoya-cu.ac.jp</p> <p>Contact: Takayoshi Suzuki, same affiliation as above e-mail: suzuki@phar.nagoya-cu.ac.jp</p>