This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Snail1 (SNAIL)	<p>Cell culture and mouse studies suggest that inhibiting SNAIL as part of a cancer treatment regimen could help prevent metastasis. In cancer cell lines, expression of SNAIL increased cell migration and invasiveness induced by inflammation compared with what was seen in control cell lines. <i>SNAIL</i> knockout inhibited cell migration and invasiveness induced by inflammation. In a xenograft metastasis model, <i>SNAIL</i> knockdown led to less inflammation-induced lung metastasis compared with that seen using buffer control. Next steps include developing a strategy to target SNAIL to inhibit breast cancer metastasis.</p> <p>SciBX 2(19); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.784 Published online May 14, 2009</p>	Findings unpatented; available for licensing	<p>Wu, Y. <i>et al. Cell</i>; published online May 4, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2009.03.016 Contact: Binhua P. Zhou, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas e-mail: bpzhou@utmb.edu</p>