This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Aurora kinase A (AURKA; Aurora-A); AURKB (Aurora-B)	<p>A study in cell culture identified a class of dianilinoimidine-based Aurora-A-specific inhibitors that could be useful for treating cancer. In human colon cancer cells, two of the dianilinoimidine-based derivatives were up to 1,000-fold more selective for Aurora-A than for Aurora-B, which was a 1–2 order-of-magnitude increase over the selectivity of other Aurora inhibitors. Next steps could include using the derivatives to develop new Aurora-A inhibitors and further investigating the role of Aurora-A kinase in cancer.</p> <p>At least 11 companies have Aurora-A and/or Aurora-B inhibitors in Phase II or earlier for various cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 2(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.822 Published online May 21, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Aliagas-Martin, I. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online April 29, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm9000314</p> <p>Contact: Andrea G. Cochran, Genentech Inc., South San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: andrea@gene.com</p>