This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Not applicable	<i>In vitro</i> studies have helped identify potent mitochondria-targeting, apoptosis-inducing peptides that could aid in the development of better cancer drugs. Existing apoptosis-inducing peptides typically have low potencies. In HeLa cells, two D-(KLAKLAK) ₂ peptide analogs modified to increase their specificity for mitochondria had IC ₅₀ values of 2.5 and 2.3 μM compared with 350 μM for the parent peptide. Next steps could include evaluating the use of these anticancer peptides in preclinical cancer models.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Kelley, S.O. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online April 27, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900178n Contact: Shana O. Kelley, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: shana.kelley@utoronto.ca
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