This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Apoptosis antagonizing transcription factor (AATF)	Cell culture and mouse studies suggest that decreasing AATF levels could help treat tumor protein p53 (TP53; p53) mutant cancers. In cultured epithelial cells, small interfering RNA knockdown of AATF increased apoptosis in p53 mutant cells compared with that in cells expressing wild-type p53. In mice, injection of p53 mutant tumor cells that contained an AATF-targeted siRNA lentiviral vector led to smaller tumor size than injection of tumor cells that contained a control vector. Next steps include identifying compounds that downregulate AATF activity.	Unpatented; licensing status undisclosed	Bruno, T. <i>et al. Cancer Cell</i> ; published online Aug. 16, 2010; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2010.05.027 Contact: Maurizio Fanciulli, Regina Elena Cancer Institute, Rome, Italy e-mail: fanciulli@ifo.it
<i>SciBX</i> 3(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1034 Published online Sept. 2, 2010				