This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	Nicotinic acetylcholine receptor $\alpha 9$ (CHRNA9)	Human and mouse studies suggest that inhibiting CHRNA9 could help treat breast cancer. In 276 paired breast tissue samples from Asian patients, expression of CHRNA9 was greater in tumor tissue than normal tissue. In xenograft mice with human breast cancer cell lines, vector-based expression of <i>Chrna9</i> small interfering RNA reduced tumor weight compared with expression of scrambled siRNA. Next steps include analyzing CHRNA9 expression in larger, multiracial cohorts. <i>SciBX</i> 3(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1061 Published online Sept. 9, 2010	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Lee, C.-H. <i>et al. J. Natl. Cancer Inst.</i> ; published online Aug. 24, 2010; doi:10.1093/jnci/djq300 Contact: Yuan-Soon Ho, Taipei Medical University-Shuang Ho Hospital, Taipei County, Taiwan e-mail: hoyuansn@tmu.edu.tw Contact: Chih-Hsiung Wu, same affiliation as above e-mail: chwu@tmu.edu.tw