This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Not applicable	<p><i>In vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> studies suggest that a combretastatin derivative, brimamin, may help treat drug-resistant cancer. <i>In vitro</i>, brimamin inhibited growth of a cisplatin-resistant testicular germ cell tumor line with an IC_{50} value of about 60 nM. In xenograft mice with the germ cell tumor line, brimamin decreased tumor volume. Next steps include further studies in mouse models of cancer.</p> <p>OxiGene Inc.'s Zybrestat fosbretabulin, a combretastatin A prodrug, is in Phase II/III trials for at least six cancer indications.</p> <p>SciBX 3(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1063 Published online Sept. 9, 2010</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing from Bayerische Patentallianz GmbH	<p>Schobert, R. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Aug. 23, 2010; doi:10.1021/jm100345r</p> <p>Contact: Thomas Mueller, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Halle, Germany e-mail: thomas.mueller@medizin.uni-halle.de</p> <p>Contact: Rainer Schobert, University of Bayreuth, Bayreuth, Germany e-mail: Rainer.Schobert@uni-bayreuth.de</p>