This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR; FRAP; RAFT1)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified a benzonaphthyridinone-based mTOR inhibitor that could help treat cancer. In cells, the lead compound Torin1 inhibited mTOR activity with a low nanomolar IC ₅₀ value. In a xenograft mouse model of glioblastoma, intraperitoneal dosing of Torin1 inhibited tumor growth compared with dosing of a vehicle control, which had no effect. Next steps include medicinal chemistry optimization of Torin1. At least eight companies have mTOR antagonists on the market or in development for cancer.	Patented; available for licensing from the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research Technology Transfer Office	Liu, Q. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Sept. 22, 2010; doi:10.1021/jm101144f Contact: Nathanael S. Gray, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Mass. e-mail: Nathanael_gray@dfci.harvard.edu
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