This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Colon cancer	β -Glucuronidase (GUSB)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified inhibitors of GUSB that could help decrease gastrointestinal toxicity associated with the chemotherapeutic Camptosar irinotecan. In an enzymatic assay, four bacterial GUSB inhibitors did not impair the activity of human GUSB. In mice, irinotecan plus the most potent inhibitor decreased diarrhea and gastrointestinal tissue damage compared with irinotecan alone. Next steps include undisclosed preclinical studies. Pfizer Inc. markets Camptosar to treat non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) and colon cancer. SciBX 3(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1323 Published online Nov. 11, 2010	Provisional patent application filed; unlicensed	Wallace, B.D. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online Nov. 4, 2010; doi:10.1126/science.1191175 Contact: Matthew R. Redinbo, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C. e-mail: redinbo@unc.edu