This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Ovarian cancer	Apolipoprotein A-1 (APOA1)	<p>Cell culture and mouse studies suggest that APOA1 peptide mimetics could help treat ovarian cancer. Low APOA1 serum levels are prognostic for early stage ovarian cancer. In a mouse model of ovarian cancer, injection or oral dosing of an APOA1 mimetic peptide decreased tumor burden and size compared with injection of vehicle control. In cisplatin-resistant human ovarian cancer cell lines, APOA1 mimetics decreased cell proliferation and viability compared with vehicle control. Next steps could include animal studies of oral APOA1 mimetics to treat ovarian cancer.</p> <p>Arisaph Pharmaceuticals Inc.'s ARI-1778 is an APOA1 peptide mimetic in preclinical testing to treat atherosclerosis.</p> <p>At least three other companies have APOA1-enhancing compounds in development from preclinical to Phase II trials to treat cardiovascular diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 3(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1324 Published online Nov. 11, 2010</p>	Patented by the University of California, Los Angeles and The University of Alabama at Birmingham; licensed to Bruin Pharmaceuticals Inc.	<p>Su, F. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Nov. 1, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1009010107</p> <p>Contact: Robin Farias-Eisner, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: rfeisner@mednet.ucla.edu</p> <p>Contact: Srinivasa T. Reddy, same affiliation as above e-mail: sreddy@mednet.ucla.edu</p>