This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Liver cancer	MicroRNA-100 (miR-100); miRNA-let7a-2 (MIRLET7a2; LET-7a2); miR- 371; miR-373	Studies in primary tumors suggest that a signature of four miRNAs could help guide treatment for liver cancer. Expression profiling in hepatoblastoma tumors identified four miRNAs—miR-100, LET-7a2, miR-371 and miR-373—that showed altered expression in invasive, metastatic and low-survival tumor phenotypes compared with in a less aggressive phenotype. In an independent analysis of tumors from 241 hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) patients, the four-miRNA signature was associated with an invasive and metastatic phenotype ($p \leq 0.0074$). Ongoing work includes validating the signature in larger populations of hepatoblastoma and HCC patients.	Patented by the Pasteur Institute; available for licensing	Cairo, S. <i>et al.</i> <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Nov. 8, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1009009107 Contact: Marie-Annick Buendia, Pasteur Institute, Paris, France e-mail: marie-annick.buendia@pasteur.fr
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