This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Mdm4 p53 binding protein homolog (MDM4; MDMX); tumor protein p53 (TP53; p53)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that a peptide inhibitor of MDMX could help treat cancer. In multiple human cancer cell lines, a peptidomimetic of p53's transactivation domain decreased cell viability and increased expression of p53 target genes compared with an inactive control peptide. In mice with xenograft placental tumors, the peptidomimetic reduced tumor growth compared with vehicle. Ongoing studies include identifying cancers that could respond to reactivation of the p53 pathway via MDMX inhibition.	Patented by the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Salk Institute for Biological Studies; licensing status undisclosed	Bernal, F. <i>et al. Cancer Cell</i> ; published online Nov. 16, 2010; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2010.10.024 Contact: Loren D. Walensky, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Mass. e-mail: loren_walensky@dfci.harvard.edu
<i>SciBX</i> 3(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1406 Published online Dec. 9, 2010				