This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Platelet derived growth factor receptor- β (PDGFRB); VEGF receptor 2 (KDR/FLK-1; VEGFR2); thymidylate synthase	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that a compound combining antiangiogenic and cytotoxic properties could help treat cancer.</p> <p><i>In vitro</i>, compounds with moieties that target VEGFR-2, PDGFRB and thymidylate synthase had inhibitory potencies equal to or better than those of individual inhibitors for the three targets. In mouse metastatic colon cancer xenografts, one of the new compounds reduced tumor growth and inhibited liver metastasis compared with no treatment, without side effects. Next steps include further animal studies.</p> <p>At least 14 companies have VEGFR inhibitors in development stages ranging from preclinical to marketed to treat cancer.</p> <p>At least six companies have thymidylate synthase inhibitors in development stages ranging from preclinical to marketed to treat cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 3(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.179 Published online Feb. 11, 2010</p>	U.S. patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Gangjee, A. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Jan. 21, 2010; doi:10.1021/jm9011142</p> <p>Contact: Aleem Gangjee, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pa. e-mail: gangjee@duq.edu</p>