This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	Low-density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 6 (LRP6)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that inhibiting LRP6 could help treat breast cancer. Gene expression analysis showed that the Wnt ligand receptor LRP6 was frequently upregulated in subsets of human breast tumors and cancer cell lines. In those cancer cell lines, LRP6 knockdown inhibited cell growth. In tumor-bearing mice, an LRP6 antagonist reduced tumor growth compared with vehicle control. Future studies could include identifying small molecule inhibitors of LRP6. Raptor Pharmaceutical Corp. has an LRP6-targeting peptide, WntTide, in preclinical development to treat breast cancer.	Patented by Washington University in St. Louis; licensed by Raptor Pharmaceutical	Liu, C.-C. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online March 1, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0911220107 Contact: Guojun Bu, Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, St. Louis, Mo. e-mail: bu@wustl.edu
<i>SciBX</i> 3(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.300 Published online March 11, 2010				