This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	ADAM metalloproteinase 17 (ADAM17); activated leukocyte cell adhesion molecule (ALCAM; CD166)	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies suggest that a class of ADAM17 inhibitors could help treat cancer. Increased expression of ADAM17 is associated with aggressive disease and poor prognosis in some cancers. <i>In vitro</i> testing of a series of arylsulfonamide analogs identified two lead compounds that were low nanomolar inhibitors of ADAM17. In human ovarian, breast and neuroblastoma cancer cell lines, the lead compounds inhibited ADAM17-mediated release of soluble ALCAM, a molecule that contributes to tumor progression. Next steps could include testing the lead compounds in animal models of cancer.</p> <p>Incyte Corp.'s INCB7839, a sheddase inhibitor targeting ADAM17 and ADAM10, is in Phase II testing to treat breast cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 3(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.302 Published online March 11, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Nuti, E. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Feb. 24, 2010; doi:10.1021/jm901868z</p> <p>Contact: Armando Rossello, University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy e-mail: aros@farm.unipi.it</p> <p>Contact: Marina Fabbi, National Institute of Cancer Research, Genova, Italy e-mail: marina.fabbi@istge.it</p>