This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Cancer; inflammation	Microsomal prostaglandin E synthase-1 (PTGES; mPGES-1)	Total synthesis of myrtucommulones could help generate new compounds to treat cancer and inflammatory disorders. Myrtucommulones are natural products from the <i>Myrtus communis</i> shrub. The synthetic strategy produced myrtucommulones A, F and C as mixtures of stereoisomers. The synthetic myrtucommulones inhibited mPGES-1 and induced apoptosis at levels comparable to those of natural product analogs. Next steps include partnering with a pharmaceutical company to move the compounds toward commercialization.	Patent applications filed; available for licensing	Muller, H. <i>et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i> ; published online Feb. 12, 2010; doi:10.1002/anie.200903906 Contact: Johann Jauch, Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany e-mail: j.jauch@mx.uni-saarland.de
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