This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cutaneous T cell lymphoma (CTCL)	RAD23 homolog B (RAD23B; HR23B); histone deacetylase (HDAC); proteasome	<i>In vitro</i> and human studies suggest that HR23B could help predict CTCL patient response to HDAC inhibitors and proteasome inhibitors. In human CTCL cell lines, an HDAC inhibitor led to higher levels of apoptosis in HR23B-expressing cells than in HR23B-knockdown cells. Biopsies from 20 CTCL patients showed that over 70% of tumors expressing high levels of HR23B responded well to the HDAC inhibitor Zolinza vorinostat, whereas the other 30% had poor responses. Ongoing work seeks to correlate HR23B expression with response to Celleron Therapeutics Ltd.'s CXD101 HDAC inhibitor in other tumor types. Merck & Co Inc. markets Zolinza to treat CTCL. Celgene Corp.'s HDAC inhibitor, Istodax romidepsin, is approved to treat CTCL. SciBX 3(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.403 Published online April 1, 2010	Patented by University of Oxford; licensed to Celleron Therapeutics	Khan, O. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online March 22, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0913912107 Contact: Nicholas B. La Thangue, University of Oxford, Oxford, U.K. e-mail: nick.lathangue@clinpharm.ox.ac.uk