This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	BCL2-associated athanogene 3 (BAG3); NF-kappa B (NF-kB)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that inhibiting BAG3 could help treat cancer. In human osteosarcoma cells, small interfering RNA-mediated knockdown of <i>BAG3</i> resulted in more NF-kB-dependent apoptosis than was seen in controls treated with a nonspecific siRNA. In a mouse model of human melanoma, siRNA knockdown of <i>Bag3</i> significantly increased survival compared with a control siRNA or no treatment ($p=0.0016$). Next steps could include screening for small molecule inhibitors of BAG3 and evaluating them in animal models of cancer.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Ammirante, M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online April 5, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0907696107 Contact: Maria Caterina Turco, University of Salerno, Fisciano, Italy e-mail: mcturco@unisa.it
<i>SciBX</i> 3(16); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.488 Published online April 22, 2010				