This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Mdm4 p53 binding protein homolog (MDM4; MDMX); p53	A high throughput screen identified a small molecule MDMX inhibitor that could help treat cancer. MDMX triggers the degradation of the tumor suppressor p53. In three human cancer cell lines, the MDMX inhibitor SJ-172550 caused accumulation of p53 and induced apoptosis. Next steps include generating an X-ray crystal structure of SJ-172550 bound to MDMX. SJ-172550 is in preclinical development at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. SciBX 3(16); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.490 Published online April 22, 2010	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Reed, D. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online Jan. 15, 2010; doi:10.1074/jbc.M109.056747 Contact: Michael A. Dyer, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tenn. e-mail: michael.dyer@stjude.org