This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Ovarian cancer	Mucin 16 (MUC16; CA125); WAP four-disulfide core domain 2 (WFDC2; HE4); carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA); vascular cell adhesion molecule-1 (VCAM-1)	Studies in humans suggest that serum levels of four proteins could help diagnose ovarian cancer. Analysis of 96 markers in blood sera showed that a combination of four proteins—CA125, HE4, CEA and VCAM-1—correctly diagnosed ovarian cancer with >86% sensitivity and 98% specificity. Studies in independent cohorts of women confirmed the diagnostic potential of the four-protein panel and demonstrated its selectivity for ovarian cancer compared with breast, lung and colorectal cancers. Future studies could include developing an assay to measure the four proteins in serum. SciBX 3(16); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.496 Published online April 22, 2010	Patented by the University of Pittsburgh; licensing status unavailable	Yurkovetsky, Z. <i>et al. J. Clin. Oncol.</i>; published online April 5, 2010; doi:10.1200/JCO.2008.19.2484 Contact: Anna E. Lokshin, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa. e-mail: lokshina@pitt.edu