This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Amphiregulin (AREG); purinergic receptor P2Y G-protein coupled 11 (P2RY11; P2Y11)	A study in mice and in cell culture suggests that blocking AREG production in dendritic cells (DCs) could help treat cancer. In human and mouse DCs, compounds that stimulated the ATP receptor through purinergic receptors like P2Y11 increased AREG secretion compared with saline control. In a mouse model of lung cancer, injection of DCs pretreated with an AREG-blocking antibody prevented tumorigenesis compared with injection of control cells. Next steps include confirming that DCs are an important source of AREG inside the tumor.	Screening methods to isolate compounds that modulate biological activity of P2Y11 receptor patented; available for licensing from Euroscreen S.A.	Bles, N. <i>et al. Blood</i> ; published online July 22, 2010; doi:10.1182/blood-2010-01-265611 Contact: Didier Communi, Free University of Brussels, Brussels, Belgium e-mail: communid@ulb.ac.be
SciBX 3(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.949 Published online Aug. 12, 2010				