This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
B cell lymphoma (BCL)	MicroRNA-21 (miR-21)	<p>A study in mice suggests that inhibiting miR-21 could help treat BCL. Mice that overexpressed miR-21 in hematopoietic tissue developed pre-BCL, whereas mice with wild-type miR-21 expression did not ($p < 0.0001$). In miR-21-overexpressing mice with established lymphomas, decreasing miR-21 levels increased survival compared with continued overexpression of miR-21 ($p < 0.0001$). Next steps include studies of miR-21 in additional mouse models of cancer.</p> <p>Regulus Therapeutics Inc. has an antisense oligonucleotide targeting miR-21 in preclinical development to treat heart failure.</p> <p>SciBX 3(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.979 Published online Aug. 19, 2010</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Medina, P.P. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Aug. 8, 2010; doi:10.1038/nature09284</p> <p>Contact: Frank J. Slack, Yale University, New Haven, Conn. e-mail: frank.slack@yale.edu</p>