This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	BMI1 polycomb ring finger oncogene (BMI1)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that inhibiting BMI1 could help treat prostate cancer. In mice injected with fibroblast growth factor-10 (Fgf-10)-expressing prostate cells to promote cancer development, co-injection of Bmi1 small hairpin RNA decreased tubule formation and prevented formation of high-grade prostate intraepithelial neoplasia (PIN) lesions compared with co-injection of scrambled shRNA. In a mouse model of prostate cancer, Bmi1 shRNA decreased tumor size compared with control shRNA. Next steps could include identifying a compound to decrease BMI1 overexpression.</p> <p>SciBX 4(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.10 Published online Jan. 6, 2011</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Lukacs, R.U. <i>et al. Cell Stem Cell</i>; published online Dec. 3, 2010; doi:10.1016/j.stem.2010.11.013</p> <p>Contact: Owen N. Witte, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: owenwitte@mednet.ucla.edu</p>