This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	VEGF receptor 2 (KDR/Flk-1; VEGFR-2); VEGFR-3 (FLT4)	An <i>in vitro</i> and mouse study identified a mAb that blocks VEGFR dimerization that could help treat cancer. In cell-based assays, the mAb decreased formation of VEGFR-3 homodimers and VEGFR-3-VEGFR-2 heterodimers compared with no treatment. In a mouse model of vascular formation, the same mAb plus a second mAb that blocked ligand binding to VEGFR-3 reduced vascular network formation compared with either antibody alone. Next steps could include testing the new mAb in combination with antiangiogenic therapy in animal models of cancer.	Patented; available for licensing	Tvorogov, D. <i>et al. Cancer Cell</i> ; published online Dec. 2, 2010; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2010.11.001 Contact: Kari Alitalo, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland e-mail: kari.alitalo@helsinki.fi
SciBX 4(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.101 Published online Jan. 27, 2011				