This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain cancer	Not applicable	<p>An <i>in vitro</i> and mouse study suggests the chemotherapeutic 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) could help treat ependymoma, a type of CNS tumor. In ependymoma-precursor neural stem cells (NSCs), 5-FU showed higher cytotoxicity than in normal NSCs. In mice implanted with the ependymoma-precursor NSCs, i.v. 5-FU improved survival compared with that in vehicle-treated mice. Next steps include developing a protocol to test 5-FU in patients with ependymoma.</p> <p>SciBX 4(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1060 Published online Sept. 29, 2011</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Atkinson, J.M. <i>et al. Cancer Cell</i>; published online Sept. 9, 2011; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2011.08.013 Contact: Richard Gilbertson, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tenn. e-mail: richard.gilbertson@stjude.org Contact: R. Kiplin Guy, same affiliation as above e-mail: kip.guy@stjude.org</p>