This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	MAP kinase kinase 1 (MAP2K1; MEK1); MAP kinase kinase 2 (MAP2K2; MEK2)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest blocking mammary fibroblast migration by inhibiting MEK1/2 could help prevent breast cancer progression. In mice with breast cancer xenografts, a MEK1/2 inhibitor prevented invasion and reduced tumor size compared with vehicle. Next steps include studying fibroblast-induced invasion in patient samples. At least eight companies have MEK1/2 inhibitors in clinical testing to treat various cancers.	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Dang, T. T. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i> ; published online Sept. 9, 2011; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-11-1818 Contact: Gray Pearson, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas gray.pearson@utsouthwestern.edu
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