This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Cyclooxygenase-1 (COX-1); thromboxane synthase	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting biosynthesis of polyunsaturated fatty acids in mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) could help prevent resistance to platinum chemotherapies. In mice with tumors, injection of MSCs reduced the effects of platinum chemotherapies compared with no injection. In the same mice, inhibiting biosynthesis of polyunsaturated fatty acids in MSCs using inhibitors of COX1 or thromboxane synthase prevented MSC-induced resistance, compared with no inhibitor. Next steps could include evaluating existing COX-1 and thromboxane synthase inhibitors for their ability to reverse resistance to platinum chemotherapy.</p> <p>SciBX 4(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1063 Published online Sept. 29, 2011</p>	<p>Patent application filed; contact Utrecht Holdings B.V. for licensing details Contact: Oscar Schoots, Utrecht Holdings B.V., Utrecht, the Netherlands e-mail: o.schoots@holdings.uu.nl</p>	<p>Roodhart, J.M.L. <i>et al. Cancer Cell</i>; published online Sept. 12, 2011; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2011.08.010 Contact: Emile Voest, University Medical Center Utrecht, Utrecht, the Netherlands e-mail: e.e.voest@umcutrecht.nl</p>