This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Colitis; colorectal cancer	NLR family pyrin domain containing 12 (NLRP12; NALP12)	<p>Mouse studies suggest increasing NLRP12 signaling could help prevent colitis and colitis-associated tumorigenesis. Nlrp12-deficient mice were more susceptible to chemical-induced colitis and had more persistent disease pathology than wild-type controls. In a mouse model of colitis-associated tumorigenesis, an Nlrp12 deficiency in hematopoietic cells led to greater tumor burden than normal Nlrp12 expression. Next steps could include screening for compounds that increase NLRP12 signaling.</p> <p>SciBX 4(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1337 Published online Dec. 8, 2011</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Zaki, M.H. <i>et al. Cancer Cell</i>; published online Nov. 15, 2011; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2011.10.022</p> <p>Contact: Thirumala-Devi Kanneganti, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tenn. e-mail: Thirumala-Devi.Kanneganti@stjude.org</p>