This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	HER2 (EGFR2; ERBB2; neu); epidermal growth factor receptor 3 (EGFR3; HER3; ERBB3)	Mouse and patient tissue studies suggest that inhibiting HER3 could improve the efficacy of anti-HER2 therapeutics in breast cancers. In a mouse xenograft model of HER2-amplified breast cancer, the anti-HER3 antibody AMG-888 plus Tykerb lapatinib decreased tumor volume compared with either drug alone. Next steps could include testing the combination in additional models of breast cancer. Daiichi Sankyo Co. Ltd. and Amgen Inc. have AMG-888 in Phase I testing to treat cancer. GlaxoSmithKline plc markets Tykerb, an anti-HER2 mAb, to treat breast cancer. At least five other companies have anti-HER3 therapeutics in clinical and preclinical testing to treat cancers. SciBX 4(12); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.334 Published online March 24, 2011	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Garrett, J.T. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online March 7, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1016140108 Contact: Carlos L. Arteaga, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tenn. e-mail: carlos.arteaga@vanderbilt.edu