This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	c-Met receptor tyrosine kinase	<p>Studies in mice identified a series of quinolone-based inhibitors of c-Met receptor tyrosine kinase that could help treat cancer. In two mouse models of cancer, the lead inhibitor decreased tumor growth compared with vehicle without causing significant weight loss. Next steps include identifying an optimal dosage and conducting long-term toxicity studies.</p> <p>Crizotinib, a dual inhibitor of c-Met receptor tyrosine kinase and anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK) and their oncogenic variants from Pfizer Inc., is under review for non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).</p> <p>At least 18 other companies have c-Met receptor tyrosine kinase inhibitors in Phase III testing or earlier to treat cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 4(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.363 Published online March 31, 2011</p>	Patents issued and pending covering use in cancer; unavailable for licensing	<p>Wang, Y. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online March 15, 2011; doi:10.1021/jm101340q</p> <p>Contact: Ao Zhang, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai, China e-mail: aozhang@mail.shcnc.ac.cn</p> <p>Contact: Meiyu Geng, same affiliation as above e-mail: mygeng@mail.shcnc.ac.cn</p>