This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	CUE domain containing 2 (CUEDC2)	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest lowering CUEDC2 levels could help increase breast cancer response to hormonal therapy. In human breast cancer cell lines, CUEDC2 overexpression decreased sensitivity to the generic estrogen receptor antagonist tamoxifen compared with that seen using a control plasmid. In human breast tumor samples, CUEDC2 expression was higher than that in adjacent normal tissues and correlated with tamoxifen resistance and poor clinical outcomes. Next steps include validating CUEDC2 as a new biomarker for endocrine therapy and developing a small molecule inhibitor of CUEDC2 to overcome tamoxifen resistance. SciBX 4(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.592 Published online May 26, 2011	Patent applications filed for diagnostic and therapeutic applications; available for licensing	Pan, X. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i> ; published online May 15, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2369 Contact: Xue-Min Zhang, Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, China National Center of Biomedical Analysis, Beijing, China e-mail: xmzhang@nic.bmi.ac.cn Contact: Li-Xin Wei, The General Hospital of Chinese People's Liberation Army, Beijing, China e-mail: weilx301@263.net