This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	Lemur tyrosine kinase 3 (LMTK3); estrogen receptor- α	A study in patient tissue and in mice suggests inhibiting LMTK3 could help treat estrogen receptor α -positive breast cancer. In a mouse model of estrogen receptor α -positive breast cancer, anti-LMTK3 small interfering RNA decreased growth of established tumors compared with vehicle. In tumor tissue from breast cancer patients, high levels of LMTK3 correlated with lower disease-free survival, overall survival and response to endocrine therapy. Next steps include silencing LMTK3 in combination with tamoxifen and other approved drugs in preclinical models. Tamoxifen is a generic estrogen receptor antagonist marketed to treat breast cancer.	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Giamas, G. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i> ; published online May 22, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2351 Contact: Justin Stebbing, Imperial College London, London, U.K. e-mail: j.stebbing@imperial.ac.uk Contact: Georgios Giamas, same affiliation as above e-mail: g.giamas@imperial.ac.uk
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