This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Sphingosine kinase 1 (SPHK1); SPHK2	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified amidine-based SPHK1 inhibitors that could help treat cancer. <i>In vitro</i> , the compounds inhibited SPHK1 at nanomolar concentrations and were selective for SPHK1 over the related isoform SPHK2. Next steps include improving the pharmacokinetics of the SPHK1 inhibitors and testing the molecules in disease models. SciBX 4(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.622 Published online June 2, 2011	Patent application filed; licensed to SphynKx Therapeutics LLC Contact: Kevin R. Lynch, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va. e-mail: kr12z@virginia.edu	Kennedy, A.J. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online April 15, 2011; doi:10.1021/jm2001053 Contact: Andrew J. Kennedy, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va. e-mail: ajk3p@virginia.edu