This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Lung cancer	Epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR); B cell lymphoma 2 (BCL-2; BCL2)	<p>A study in mice suggests inhibitors of the BCL-2 family may help treat EGFR inhibitor-resistant lung cancer. In an EGFR inhibitor-insensitive lung cancer cell line, Tarceva erlotinib and the BCL-2 family inhibitor ABT-737 lowered levels of Tarceva resistance compared with Tarceva alone. In xenograft mice with the cell line, Tarceva and ABT-737 decreased tumor growth compared with either compound alone. Next steps include additional preclinical studies to determine the optimal regimen for the combination. Astellas Pharma Inc. and Roche market the EGFR inhibitor Tarceva erlotinib for non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) and pancreatic cancer. ABT-737 is a research reagent from Abbott Laboratories.</p> <p>SciBX 4(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.624 Published online June 2, 2011</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Fan, W. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online May 9, 2011; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-10-2668 Contact: Patrick C. Ma, Taussig Cancer Institute at the Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio e-mail: map@ccf.org</p>