This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Mdm2 p53 binding protein homolog (MDM2; HDM2); p53	<p>SAR studies identified a series of MDM2-p53 interaction inhibitors that could be useful for treating cancer. In the first study, <i>in vitro</i> assays identified piperidone compounds that bound the N-terminal tail of MDM2 and stabilized the protein's structure, and decreased p53 binding compared with vehicle. In the second study, cell culture and mouse studies identified orally available, high-affinity pyrrolidone inhibitors of the MDM2-p53 interaction that decreased tumor growth more effectively than a reference compound. Next steps include further lead optimization and selection of preclinical candidates from both series.</p> <p>SciBX 5(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1104 Published online Oct. 25, 2012</p>	<p>Findings in first study covered by pending patent; licensing status undisclosed</p> <p>Findings in second study covered by pending patent; available for licensing</p>	<p>Michelsen, K. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Sept. 19, 2012; doi:10.1021/ja305839b Contact: Leszek Poppe, Amgen Inc., Thousand Oaks, Calif. e-mail: lpoppe@amgen.com Contact: Xin Huang, same affiliation as above e-mail: hxin@amgen.com</p> <p>Zhuang, C. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Oct. 9, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm300969t Contact: Wannian Zhang, Second Military Medical University, Shanghai, China e-mail: zhangwnk@hotmail.com Contact: Chunquan Sheng, same affiliation as above e-mail: shengcq@hotmail.com</p>