This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Colorectal cancer	MAP kinase kinase kinase 8 (MAP3K8; COT; TPL2); c-Met proto-oncogene (MET; HGFR); hepatocyte growth factor/scatter factor (HGF/SF)	<p>Mouse studies suggest increasing TPL2 signaling could help prevent colitis-associated cancer. <i>Tpl2</i>-deficient mice showed greater susceptibility to colitis-induced tumor formation and developed higher-grade tumors than nondeficient controls. In mice, inhibiting Hgf/sf-mediated activation of Met prevented the increased susceptibility to tumor formation caused by <i>Tpl2</i> deficiency. Next steps include studying the mechanism by which TPL2 regulates HGF/SF production in intestinal fibroblasts.</p> <p>SciBX 5(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1107 Published online Oct. 25, 2012</p>	Unpatented; mouse model licensed to an undisclosed pharma and available for licensing	<p>Koliarakis, V. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Oct. 15, 2012; doi:10.1172/JCI63917</p> <p>Contact: George Kollas, Alexander Fleming Biomedical Sciences Research Center, Vari, Greece e-mail: kollas@fleming.gr</p>