This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Cardiomyopathy	Topoisomerase II β (TOP2B)	<p>Mouse studies suggest TOP2B expression could help predict the risk of doxorubicin-induced cardiomyopathy. Cardiomyocytes from doxorubicin-treated mice with cardiac-specific <i>Top2b</i> deficiency showed lower DNA damage responses and apoptosis and greater mitochondrial biosynthesis and function than cardiomyocytes with normal <i>Top2b</i> expression. In mice with cardiac-specific <i>Top2b</i> deficiency, doxorubicin induced no change in left ventricular ejection fraction, a clinical measure of cardiomyopathy, whereas the drug decreased ejection fractions in wild-type controls. Ongoing work includes determining whether TOP2B expression correlates with cardiomyopathy in patients treated with doxorubicin.</p> <p>SciBX 5(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1139 Published online Nov. 1, 2012</p>	<p>Patented by The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center; available for licensing Contact: Natalie Wright, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas e-mail: nwright@mdanderson.org</p>	<p>Zhang, S. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Oct. 28, 2012; doi:10.1038/nm.2919 Contact: Edward T.H. Yeh, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas e-mail: etyeh@mdanderson.org</p>