This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Cancer; pain	σ 1 Receptor; σ 2 receptor	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest adamantane phenylalkylamines could help treat cancer and reduce neuropathic pain induced by cancer drugs. In human cancer cell lines, adamantane phenylalkylamines that bound the σ1 and σ2 receptors showed antiproliferative activity and selectivity over normal human cell lines. In four different mouse xenograft models of cancer, one phenylalkylamine had better activity than several marketed chemotherapeutics and showed antimetastatic effects. In a mouse model of neuropathic pain, the compound had an analgesic effect. Next steps could include testing the compound in additional animal models. At least seven companies have compounds targeting the σ1 receptor in Phase II testing or earlier for cancer or neurology indications, including pain.</p> <p>SciBX 5(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1188 Published online Nov. 15, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Riganas, S. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Oct. 24, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm3013008 Contact: George B. Foscolos, National and Kapodestrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece e-mail: gfosco@pharm.uoa.gr</p>