This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	Proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 6 (PCSK6; PACE4)	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified a selective PACE4 inhibitor that could help treat prostate cancer. SAR studies identified a peptide sequence that selectively inhibited the cancer-associated PACE4 with more than 20-fold selectivity over furin, a closely related proprotein convertase required by normal tissues. In <i>PACE4</i> -expressing prostate cancer cell lines, the peptide decreased cell proliferation compared with vehicle and induced cell cycle arrest. Next steps include toxicity and pharmacokinetic studies.	Patent applications filed; undisclosed partner has option to license technology; unavailable for licensing	Levesque, C. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Nov. 5, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm3011178 Contact: Robert Day, University of Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada e-mail: robert.day@usherbrooke.ca
SciBX 5(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1205 Published online Nov. 29, 2012				