This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Retinoid X receptor- α (RXRA; RXR α); tumor necrosis factor- α (TNF- α)	Cell culture studies suggest a xanthone called CF31, isolated from the <i>Cratoxylum formosum</i> plant, could be useful for treating cancer. An <i>in vitro</i> screen identified CF31 as an inhibitor of truncated RXR α . In human cancer cell lines, CF31 induced apoptosis via a TNF- α -dependent pathway. Next steps could include studies to optimize CF31's anticancer effect and evaluate the compound in additional preclinical models. <i>SciBX</i> 5(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1254 Published online Dec. 13, 2012	Compound patented; available for licensing	Zhang, X.-k. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i> ; published online Nov. 14, 2012; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-12-2038 Contact: Xiao-kun Zhang, Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: xzhang@sanfordburnham.org