This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	Protein tyrosine phosphatase 1B (PTP-1B; PTPN1)	<p>Studies in mice and in patient samples suggest inhibiting PTP-1B could help treat prostate cancer. In samples from 218 prostate cancer patients, PTP-1B amplification was found in 21.6% of metastases compared with 6.6% of primary tumors. In mice, prostate cancer xenografts expressing PTP-1B shRNA had less tumor growth than xenografts expressing control shRNA. Next steps include identifying other mutations that could influence the progression of prostate cancers with high PTP-1B expression and determining whether blocking PTP-1B could improve clinical outcomes.</p> <p>TransTech Pharma Inc's PTP-1B inhibitor, TTP814, is in Phase II testing to treat diabetes.</p> <p>ISIS-PTP1BRx, a PTP-1B antisense oligonucleotide from Isis Pharmaceuticals Inc., is in Phase I testing to treat diabetes.</p> <p>MSI-1436, a small molecule PTP-1B inhibitor from Ohr Pharmaceutical Inc., is in Phase I testing to treat diabetes.</p> <p>SciBX 5(7); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.176 Published online Feb. 16, 2012</p>	Unpatented; vectors, cell lines and animal models developed in the project are available for licensing from McGill University	<p>Lessard, L. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online Jan. 26, 2012; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-11-2602</p> <p>Contact: Michel L. Tremblay, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada e-mail: michel.tremblay@mcgill.ca</p>