This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	IL-4 receptor (CD124)	A study in mice identified an aptamer targeting CD124 that depleted tumor-promoting myeloid-derived suppressor cells (MDSCs) and could help treat breast cancer. In mouse models of breast cancer, the aptamer increased MDSC apoptosis and decreased both tumor growth and lung metastases compared with a control aptamer. Next steps include confirming the effects of the aptamer in human tissue samples and coupling the aptamer to a chemotherapeutic. <i>SciBX</i> 5(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.197 Published online Feb. 23, 2012	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Roth, F. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online Jan. 26, 2012; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-11-2772 Contact: Paolo Serafini, University of Miami, Miami, Fla. e-mail: pserafini@med.miami.edu