This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Liposarcoma	Peroxisome proliferation-activated receptor- γ (PPARG; PPAR γ)	<p>Studies in mice suggest combining Yondelis trabectedin and PPARγ agonists could help treat p53-mutant round cell liposarcoma. Mutations in p53 previously have been found in some patients with round cell liposarcoma and have been associated with poor prognosis. In a mouse model of round cell liposarcoma with p53 deficiency, Yondelis induced the expression of Pparγ compared with no treatment. Also in the mice, Yondelis plus the PPARγ agonist Avandia rosiglitazone prolonged survival compared with Yondelis alone. Next steps could include testing the approach in additional mouse models of the disease.</p> <p>Yondelis, a cytotoxic alkaloid from the PharmaMar S.A. unit of Zeltia S.A., is approved outside the U.S. to treat advanced soft tissue sarcoma and advanced ovarian cancer. Avandia, from GlaxoSmithKline plc, is marketed to treat type 2 diabetes.</p> <p>SciBX 5(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.200 Published online Feb. 23, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Charytonowicz, E. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Feb. 1, 2012; doi:10.1172/JCI60015 Contact: Igor Matushansky, Columbia University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: im17@columbia.edu</p>