This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain cancer	Ubiquitin specific peptidase 15 (USP15); transforming growth factor- β receptor 1 (TGFR1; ALK5)	Studies in patient samples suggest inhibiting USP15 could help treat glioblastoma by blocking transforming growth factor- β (TGF β) signaling. In glioblastoma samples, USP15 expression was positively correlated with TGFR1 levels and <i>USP15</i> amplification was correlated with a negative prognosis. In mice injected with patient-derived glioblastoma neurospheres, small hairpin RNA knockdown of USP15 lowered TGFR1 levels and tumor growth compared with no knockdown. Next steps could include screening for specific USP15 inhibitors.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Eichhorn, P.J.A. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i> ; published online Feb. 19, 2012; doi:10.1038/nm.2619 Contact: Joan Seoane, Vall d'Hebron University Hospital, Barcelona, Spain e-mail: jseoane@vhio.net
<i>SciBX</i> 5(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.248 Published online March 8, 2012				