This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Interferon- β (IFNB; IFN- β)	<p>Mouse studies suggest a synthetic sialyl-IFNB compound could help treat cancer. In a mouse model of human Burkitt's lymphoma, a synthetic IFNB compound containing a disialyloligosaccharide decreased tumor growth compared with fibroblast-derived human IFNB or vehicle. Next steps include scaling up synthesis of the sialyl-IFNB compound and evaluating its effect in additional cancers, HCV and multiple sclerosis (MS).</p> <p>SciBX 5(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.331 Published online March 29, 2012</p>	<p>Patent application filed; licensed by Otsuka Chemical Co. Ltd. Contact: Katsura Torii, Otsuka Chemical Co. Ltd., Osaka, Japan e-mail: katsura.torii@otsukac.co.jp</p>	<p>Sakamoto, I. <i>et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i>; published online March 10, 2012; doi:10.1021/ja2109079 Contact: Yasuhiro Kajihara, Osaka University, Toyonaka, Japan e-mail: kajihara@chem.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp</p>