This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	Cyclin dependent kinase (CDK)	<p>Mouse and cell culture studies suggest CDK inhibitors could help treat triple-negative breast cancer. In five triple-negative human breast cancer cell lines, the small molecule CDK inhibitors purvalanol A and dinaciclib decreased growth compared with vehicle. In murine breast cancer xenografts, twice-weekly dinaciclib for two weeks resulted in tumor regression. Next steps include setting up a clinical trial to test an undisclosed CDK inhibitor in triple-negative breast cancer.</p> <p>Merck & Co. Inc. and partner Ligand Pharmaceuticals Inc. have dinaciclib in Phase II testing to treat various cancers, including breast cancer.</p> <p>Purvalanol A is a chemical reagent.</p> <p>At least six other companies have CDK inhibitors in Phase II trials or earlier to treat various cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 5(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.385 Published online April 12, 2012</p>	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Horiuchi, D. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online March 19, 2012; doi:10.1084/jem.20111512</p> <p>Contact: Andrei Goga, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: andrei.goga@ucsf.edu</p>