This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	K-Ras; son of sevenless homolog 1 (SOS1)	<p>Two independent <i>in vitro</i> studies identified a previously unknown binding site on K-Ras that could be targeted with small molecules to treat cancer. <i>In vitro</i> screening of libraries made up of small molecule fragments identified ligands that bound to a site at the likely interface of K-Ras and its activator SOS1. In an <i>in vitro</i> assay, fragments or fragment analogs blocked SOS1-mediated K-Ras activation with mid- to high-micromolar IC₅₀ values. Next steps for both groups include developing more potent inhibitors.</p> <p>SciBX 5(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.542 Published online May 24, 2012</p>	<p>Patent status undisclosed for first study; available for licensing or partnering</p> <p>Patent status undisclosed for second study; unavailable for licensing</p>	<p>Sun, Q. <i>et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i>; published online May 8, 2012; doi:10.1002/anie.201201358 Contact: Stephen W. Fesik, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tenn. e-mail: stephen.fesik@vanderbilt.edu</p> <p>Maurer, T. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online March 19, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1116510109 Contact: Guowei Fang, Genentech Inc., South San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: fang.guowei@gene.com Contact: Weiru Wang, same affiliation as above e-mail: wang.weiru@gene.com</p>