This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	P glycoprotein (MDR1; ABCB1; P-gp; CD243)	<p>Cell culture studies identified ecdysteroid compounds that could help treat multidrug-resistant (MDR) cancers. In a mouse lymphoma cell line overexpressing Abcb1, multiple ecdysteroids decreased resistance to doxorubicin compared with no treatment. Next steps include evaluating the lead ecdysteroids against additional cell lines with other resistance mechanisms and in non-MDR cell lines.</p> <p>Hanmi Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd.'s Oraxol, an oral formulation of paclitaxel plus an ABCB1 inhibitor, is in Phase II testing to treat cancer. The company's Oratecan, an oral formulation of irinotecan plus an ABCB1 inhibitor, is in Phase I testing for cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 5(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.543 Published online May 24, 2012</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Martins, A. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online May 14, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm300424n</p> <p>Contact: Attila Hunyadi, University of Szeged, Szeged, Hungary e-mail: hunyadi.a@pharm.u-szeged.hu</p>