This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Silver homolog (SILV; PMEL17; GP100)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest PMEL17 could be a target for melanoma antibody-drug conjugate (ADC) therapy. In melanoma cell lines, a PMEL17-targeting antibody conjugated to the antimitotic reagent monomethyl auristatin E led to cell death, with increased potency correlating with higher levels of PMEL17 expression on the melanoma cells. In mice with human PMEL17-expressing melanoma xenografts, the ADC therapy decreased tumor growth compared with a control ADC therapy or vehicle. Next steps include safety studies in two animal species.	Patent application filed; unavailable for licensing	Chen, Y. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online May 21, 2012; doi:10.1074/jbc.M112.361485 Contact: Paul Polakis, Genentech Inc., South San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: ppolakis@gene.com
<i>SciBX</i> 5(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.594 Published online June 7, 2012				