This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)	Epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR); c-Met proto-oncogene (MET; HGFR)	<p>Mouse studies suggest combining EGFR and MET inhibitors could help treat drug-resistant NSCLC. Mutations in EGFR and amplifications in MET are associated with resistance to EGFR inhibitors. In mice with lung tumors caused by lung-specific genetic amplification of <i>Met</i> and mutated <i>Egfr</i>, an EGFR inhibitor plus a MET inhibitor increased tumor regression compared with either treatment alone. Next steps could include testing the combination therapy in additional animal models.</p> <p>At least 24 companies have EGFR inhibitors in development stages ranging from preclinical to marketed to treat cancer.</p> <p>At least four companies have MET inhibitors in clinical and preclinical testing to treat cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 5(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.596 Published online June 7, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Xu, L. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online May 2, 2012; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-11-3720</p> <p>Contact: Kwok-Kin Wong, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Mass. e-mail: kwongl@partners.org</p>