This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	Myeloid/lymphoid or mixed-lineage leukemia 2 (MLL2)	<p>Patient sample and cell culture studies suggest inhibiting MLL2 could help treat prostate cancer. Exome sequencing of tumor tissue from patients with castration-resistant prostate cancer identified recurrent mutations in <i>MLL2</i>. In a human prostate cancer cell line, MLL2 and other MLL (HRX)-complex members interacted directly with the androgen receptor, which is a known disease target. In the cells, small interfering RNA against MLL2 decreased androgen receptor signaling compared with control siRNA. Next steps include testing compounds that target the MLL complex in preclinical models of prostate cancer. At least 11 companies have androgen receptor antagonists in development stages from preclinical to marketed for prostate cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 5(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.597 Published online June 7, 2012</p>	Patent application filed covering diagnostic applications; available for licensing	<p>Grasso, C.S. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online May 20, 2012; doi:10.1038/nature11125 Contact: Arul M. Chinnaiyan, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. e-mail: arul@umich.edu</p>