This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	Speckle-type POZ protein (SPOP)	<p>Patient sample and cell culture studies suggest <i>SPOP</i> could be useful as a marker for patient stratification and a therapeutic target in prostate cancer. <i>SPOP</i> encodes a subunit of a cullin-based E3 ubiquitin ligase. Sequencing of patient primary prostate tumor samples identified <i>SPOP</i> mutations in 13% of the tumors. In cultured human prostate cancer cells, expression of the most frequently identified <i>SPOP</i> mutant or <i>SPOP</i>-targeted siRNA led to greater invasiveness than expression of wild-type <i>SPOP</i> or nontargeted siRNA. Next steps could include identifying compounds that modulate mutant <i>SPOP</i> activity or show efficacy against <i>SPOP</i> mutant prostate cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 5(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.598 Published online June 7, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Barbieri, C.E. <i>et al. Nat. Genet.</i>; published online May 20, 2012; doi:10.1038/ng.2279 Contact: Levi A. Garraway, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Mass. e-mail: levi_garraway@dfci.harvard.edu</p>