This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Liver cancer	Guanine nucleotide binding protein β -polypeptide 2-like 1 (GNB2L1; RACK1)	<p>Patient sample and mouse studies suggest inhibiting RACK1 could help treat hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). In paired liver tissue samples, RACK1 mRNA levels in HCC were higher than those in matched normal tissue ($p < 0.001$). In a mouse xenograft model of HCC, small hairpin RNA-mediated knockdown of RACK1 decreased tumor growth compared with no knockdown. Also in the model, shRNA against RACK1 plus doxorubicin chemotherapy decreased tumor growth compared with either agent alone. Next steps could include screening for and testing small molecule RACK1 inhibitors in HCC models.</p> <p>SciBX 5(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.651 Published online June 21, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Ruan, Y. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online June 1, 2012; doi:10.1172/JCI58488 Contact: Jianxin Gu, Gene Research Center, Shanghai Medical College of Fudan University, Shanghai, China e-mail: jxgu@shmu.edu.cn</p>