This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	DNA	<p>Cell culture studies suggest the DNA-binding platinum(II) complex phenanthriplatin could help treat cancer. In a panel of seven human cancer cell lines, phenanthriplatin inhibited growth with greater potency than cisplatin, oxaliplatin or pyriplatin. In a panel of 60 human cancer cell lines, phenanthriplatin showed a different spectrum of inhibitory activity than conventional platinum-based crosslinking agents. Next steps include evaluating phenanthriplatin in <i>in vivo</i> efficacy studies and testing it in combination with nanoparticle carrier molecules. Cisplatin and oxaliplatin are generic, platinum-based drugs for cancer. Pyriplatin is a platinum(II) complex-based research reagent.</p> <p>SciBX 5(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.752 Published online July 26, 2012</p>	Patent application filed; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Park, G.Y. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online July 6, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1207670109</p> <p>Contact: Stephen J. Lippard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: lippard@mit.edu</p>