This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Unknown	<p>Mouse and retrospective patient studies suggest cardiac glycosides such as digoxin could complement certain chemotherapies to help treat cancer. In mice, the cardiac glycosides digoxin and digitoxin both stimulated cell death in tumor cells and elicited a protective antitumor immune response. In a retrospective analysis of patients with carcinoma receiving chemotherapy, digoxin was associated with increased survival compared with no digoxin. Next steps include screening additional chemical libraries for inducers of immunogenic cell death and designing a clinical trial to evaluate the cardiac glycosides in patients with head and neck cancers.</p> <p>Digoxin and digitoxin are generic cardiac glycosides used to treat atrial fibrillation and atrial flutter.</p> <p>SciBX 5(30); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.783 Published online Aug. 2, 2012</p>	<p>Two patent applications filed; available for licensing from the Gustave Roussy Institute Contact: Isabelle Pelletier-Bressac, Gustave Roussy Institute, Villejuif, France e-mail: isabelle.pelletier-bressac@igr.fr phone: +33 (0)1 42 11 60 86</p>	<p>Menger, L. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online July 18, 2012; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3003807 Contact: Guido Kroemer, Georges Pompidou European Hospital, Paris, France e-mail: kroemer@orange.fr Contact: Oliver Kepp, University of South Paris XI, Bicêtre, France e-mail: oliver.kepp@igr.fr</p>