This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Ovarian cancer	Not applicable	<p>Mouse and cell culture studies suggest tumor-specific nanoparticles encapsulating the mRNA of an artificial transcription factor could help treat ovarian cancer. In a murine ovarian cancer cell line, nanoparticles loaded with artificial transcription factor mRNA decreased viability and invasiveness compared with nanoparticles loaded with control mRNA. In a mouse model of epithelial ovarian carcinoma, tail vein injection of nanoparticles loaded with the artificial transcription factor mRNA decreased tumor growth compared with injection of control nanoparticles. Next steps include evaluating toxicity of the nanoparticles and scaling up production.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 5(30); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.785 Published online Aug. 2, 2012</p>	Nanoparticle technology patented; available for licensing from the University of Pittsburgh	<p>Lara, H. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i>; published online July 10, 2012; doi:10.1074/jbc.M112.360768 Contact: Pilar Blancafort, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C. e-mail: pilar_blancafort@med.unc.edu</p>