This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Smoothened (SMO)	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified inhibitors of SMO ciliary localization and cilia assembly that could help treat Hedgehog pathway-driven cancers. A high throughput, fluorescence, cell-based screen identified 10 small molecules that inhibited SMO ciliary localization and cilia assembly. Nine of the compounds showed direct binding to the receptor. In a Hedgehog-driven basal cell carcinoma-like cell line, all 10 compounds inhibited proliferation. Next steps could include testing the compounds in additional models of Hedgehog-driven cancers.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Wu, V.M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Aug. 3, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1207170109 Contact: Jeremy F. Reiter, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: jeremy.reiter@ucsf.edu Contact: Michelle Arkin, same affiliation as above e-mail: michelle.arkin@ucsf.edu
<i>SciBX</i> 5(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.836 Published online Aug. 16, 2012				