This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	DAN domain family member 5 (DAND5; COCO)	<p>Mouse and patient sample studies suggest inhibiting COCO could help prevent breast cancer from metastasizing to the lung. In mouse models of breast cancer, vector-mediated expression of Coco promoted metastasis of breast cancer cells to the lung and induced their exit from dormancy, whereas an empty vector did not. In the mouse model, Coco promoted reactivation of metastatic cells through inhibition of bone morphogenetic protein signaling. In patients with breast cancer, a <i>COCO</i> gene expression signature was correlated with metastatic disease relapse to the lung but not to the bone or brain. Next steps include generating and evaluating COCO-blocking mAbs in mouse models and developing assays to identify patients with <i>COCO</i>-overexpressing breast carcinomas.</p> <p>SciBX 5(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.894 Published online Aug. 30, 2012</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Gao, H. <i>et al. Cell</i>; published online Aug. 17, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.cell.2012.06.035 Contact: Filippo G. Giancotti, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y. e-mail: f-giancotti@ski.mskcc.org</p>