This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain cancer	N-Methylpurine- DNA glycosylase (MPG; APNG)	<p>A study in cells and in patient tissue suggests inhibiting the DNA repair enzyme APNG may help treat Temodal-resistant glioblastoma multiforme (GBM). In Temodal-resistant primary GBM cells, anti-APNG small hairpin RNA sensitized cells to Temodal compared with scrambled shRNA. In 37 GBM patients treated with Temodal, expression of APNG in tumor tissue correlated with decreased overall survival compared with no APNG expression. Next steps include a clinical trial of the DNA repair inhibitor methoxyamine plus Temodal in patients with GBM.</p> <p>Merck & Co. Inc. markets the DNA-alkylating agent Temodal temozolomide to treat brain cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 5(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.92 Published online Jan. 26, 2012</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Agnihotri, S. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Dec. 12, 2011; doi:10.1172/JCI59334 Contact: Sameer Agnihotri, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: sameer.agnihotri@utoronto.ca</p>