This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Pancreatic cancer	Matrix metalloproteinase 2 (MMP2); MMP9	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified the endohedral metallofullerenol Gd@C82(OH)₂₂ as an MMP inhibitor that could help treat pancreatic cancer. In mice with human pancreatic cancer xenografts, the nanoparticle suppressed tumor growth by decreasing angiogenesis and blood vessel size and density compared with saline control. In tumor sections, Gd@C82(OH)₂₂ decreased <i>MMP2</i> and <i>MMP9</i> mRNA levels compared with saline. Next steps include mass production of the nanoparticle and a clinical trial.</p> <p>SciBX 5(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.980 Published online Sept. 20, 2012</p>	Findings patented; additional patents to be filed for better compound designs; will be available for licensing	<p>Kang, S.-g. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Sept. 4, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1204600109 Contact: Ruhong Zhou, IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, N.Y. e-mail: ruhongz@us.ibm.com Contact: Yuliang Zhao, Institute of High Energy Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China e-mail: zhaoyuliang@ihep.ac.cn Contact: Chunying Chen, same affiliation as above e-mail: chenchy@nanoctr.cn</p>