This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Heparan sulfate glycosaminoglycan (HSGAG)	<p>Cell culture studies suggest inhibiting HSGAG-dependent exosome uptake by noncancerous cells could help prevent exosome-mediated tumor development. Exosome-mediated trafficking of signaling molecules and other tumorigenic factors has recently been linked to cancer proliferation. In cell culture, fluorescently labeled exosomes derived from a glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) cell line bound to HSGAGs. In HSGAG-deficient cell lines or cells treated with the HSGAG antagonist heparin, exosome uptake was lower than that in wild-type cells or cells given no treatment. Next steps could include screening for small molecule inhibitors of exosome binding.</p> <p>SciBX 6(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1218 Published online Nov. 7, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Christianson, H.C. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Oct. 7, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1304266110 Contact: Mattias Belting, Lund University, Lund, Sweden e-mail: mattias.belting@med.lu.se</p>