This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Cancer; <i>Mycobacterium</i>	DNA; topoisomerase II (TOP2)	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified analogs of the natural product chartreusin that could serve as lead compounds to help treat cancer or mycobacterial infection. Chartreusin binds DNA and inhibits TOP2. Chemical synthesis, biosynthesis, SAR and <i>in vitro</i> testing of chartreusin analogs identified several lead compounds that inhibited proliferation of human colon cancer, melanoma and/or chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) cell lines at low micromolar to high nanomolar GI ₅₀ values. Another lead compound inhibited growth of <i>M. vaccae</i> at a low micromolar minimum inhibitory concentration. Planned work includes optimizing the lead compounds to treat cancer or mycobacterial infection.	Patented by the Hans Knoell Institute; available for partnering and licensing	Ueberschaar, N. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> ; published online Oct. 21, 2013; doi:10.1021/ja4080024 Contact: Christian Hertweck, Hans Knoell Institute, Jena, Germany e-mail: christian.hertweck@hki-jena.de
<i>SciBX</i> 6(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1301 Published online Nov. 21, 2013				