This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Ras homolog gene family member A (RHOA); leukemia-associated Rho guanine nucleotide exchange factor (LARG)	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified a small molecule inhibitor of the interaction between LARG and RHOA that could help treat cancers. In human fibroblasts, a compound designed to specifically block the RHOA binding site on LARG inhibited RHOA activity and disrupted actin cytoskeletal organization and adhesion. In human breast cancer cells, the compound inhibited growth, migration, invasion and mammary sphere formation at double-digit micromolar concentrations. Next steps include identifying improved lead compounds for clinical testing.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Shang, X. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Feb. 4, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1212324110 Contact: Yi Zheng, Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio e-mail: yi.zheng@cchmc.org
		SciBX 6(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.135 Published online Feb. 14, 2013		