This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Cancer; viral infections	Cell division cycle 42 (CDC42)	<i>In vitro</i> and cell culture studies identified a selective inhibitor of the GTPase CDC42 that could help treat cancer or viral infections. High throughput screening identified compounds that inhibited CDC42 selectively over four other GTPases. In an ovarian cancer cell line-based migration assay, low micromolar concentrations of the lead inhibitor decreased migration compared with vehicle. In hantavirus-infected cells, incubation with inhibitor 60–75 minutes postinfection decreased viral replication compared with vehicle incubation. Next steps include optimizing the CDC42 inhibitor and testing its effects in cell-based models for disease.	Screening technology patented; patent application filed covering the CDC42 inhibitors; available for licensing	Hong, L. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online Feb. 4, 2013; doi:10.1074/jbc.M112.435941 Contact: Angela Wandering-Ness, The University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, N.M. e-mail: wness@unm.edu Contact: Larry A. Sklar, same affiliation as above e-mail: lsklar@salud.unm.edu
SciBX 6(9); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.225				
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