This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Poliovirus receptor-related 4 (PVRL4)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting PVRL4 could help treat cancer. A genetic screen to identify genes that promote anchorage-independent growth identified <i>PVRL4</i> as a top candidate. In a series of human cell lines, <i>PVRL4</i> drove cell-to-cell attachment, which was required for anchorage-independent growth. In mouse xenograft models for human breast cancer, small hairpin RNA knockdown of <i>PVRL4</i> or treatment with a mAb that disrupts PVRL4-mediated cell-to-cell attachment decreased tumor growth compared with no knockdown or treatment. Next steps include studies to understand the mechanisms by which <i>PVRL4</i> is upregulated in tumors.</p> <p>SciBX 6(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.541 Published online June 6, 2013</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Pavlova, N.N. <i>et al. eLife</i>; published online April 30, 2013; doi:10.7554/eLife.00358 Contact: Stephen J. Elledge, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: selledge@genetics.med.harvard.edu</p>