This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Phosphodiesterase δ subunit (PDEδ); Ras	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting an interaction between Ras and the PDEδ subunit could help treat cancer. PDEδ binds lipid-modified Ras and facilitates Ras relocalization and activation. An <i>in vitro</i> high throughput screen and subsequent SAR study identified deltarasin as a small molecule inhibitor of the Ras-PDEδ interaction. In a mouse xenograft model for human pancreatic cancer, deltarasin decreased tumor growth compared with vehicle. Next steps include identifying new chemotypes that target the PDEδ-Ras binding site and developing a drug candidate based on deltarasin.</p> <p>SciBX 6(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.574 Published online June 13, 2013</p>	Compound class is patented; available for licensing	<p>Zimmerman, G. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online May 22, 2013; doi:10.1038/nature12205 Contact: Herbert Waldmann, Max Planck Institute of Molecular Physiology, Dortmund, Germany e-mail: herbert.waldmann@mpi-dortmund.mpg.de Contact: Philippe I.H. Bastiaens, same affiliation as above e-mail: philippe.bastiaens@mpi-dortmund.mpg.de Contact: Alfred Wittinghofer, same affiliation as above e-mail: alfred.wittinghofer@mpi-dortmund.mpg.de</p>