This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Multiple myeloma (MM)	BRAF	<p>Patient studies suggest Zelboraf vemurafenib could help treat BRAF V600E mutant MM. In samples from patients with MM, the BRAF V600E mutant correlated with increased disease severity compared with nonmutant BRAF. In a single patient with BRAF V600E mutant MM, Zelboraf caused tumor regression and increased tumor cell apoptosis compared with baseline. Next steps could include a prospective clinical trial of Zelboraf in patients with BRAF V600E mutant MM.</p> <p>Daiichi Sankyo Co. Ltd., Chugai Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. and Roche market Zelboraf, an oral small molecule inhibitor of oncogenic BRAF V600E, to treat melanoma. The drug is in Phase II testing for thyroid cancer and Phase I testing for colorectal cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 6(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.597 Published online June 20, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Andrulis, M. <i>et al. Cancer Discov.</i>; published online April 23, 2013; doi:10.1158/2159-8290.CD-13-0014</p> <p>Contact: Marc S. Raab, German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, Germany e-mail: m.raab@dkfz.de</p>