This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	Histone deacetylase 1 (HDAC1); HDAC6; estrogen receptor- α	Cell culture studies suggest bifunctional compounds inhibiting HDAC1, HDAC6 and estrogen receptors (ERs) could help treat ER ⁺ breast cancer. In human breast cancer cells, conjugates of the HDAC inhibitor Zolanza vorinostat with the generic ER antagonist tamoxifen showed more potent antiproliferative effects against ER ⁺ cells than ER ⁻ cells. In breast cancer cell lines, the bifunctional compounds caused twofold more inhibition of growth than tamoxifen alone. Next steps include optimization of lead compounds and evaluating tumor-selective accumulation and efficacy in mouse models. Merck & Co. Inc. and Taiho Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. market Zolanza to treat cutaneous T cell lymphoma (CTCL).	Patent status undisclosed; available for licensing from the Georgia Tech Research Corp.	Gryder, B.E. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online June 20, 2013; doi:10.1021/jm400467w Contact: Adegboyega K. Oyelere, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia e-mail: aoyelere@gatech.edu
<p><i>SciBX</i> 6(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.749 Published online Aug. 1, 2013</p>				