This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Not applicable	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting the formation of neutrophil extracellular traps (NETs) could help prevent cancer metastasis after surgery. Postoperative infectious complications such as sepsis have been shown to increase the risk of death from metastatic cancer. In a mouse model for surgery-induced sepsis, injection of murine lung carcinoma cells led to greater hepatic metastasis than sham-operated, nonseptic controls. In septic mice injected with the carcinoma cells, reagents that inhibited NET formation prevented the sepsis-associated increase in hepatic metastasis. Next steps could include developing inhibitors of NET formation that have drug-like properties.</p> <p>SciBX 6(30); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.785 Published online Aug. 8, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Cools-Lartigue, J. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online July 1, 2013; doi:10.1172/JCI67484 Contact: Lorenzo Ferri, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada e-mail: lorenzo.ferri@mcgill.ca</p>