This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	<i>NGFI-A binding protein 2 (EGR1 binding protein 2; NAB2); signal transducer and activator of transcription 6 (STAT6)</i>	Two separate genetic sequencing studies identified a <i>NAB2-STAT6</i> gene fusion associated with solitary fibrous tumors (SFTs), which could provide a new therapeutic target. In the first study, whole-exome sequencing of 53 SFT samples identified <i>NAB2-STAT6</i> fusion transcripts in 29 of the samples. In a second study, whole-genome and whole-transcriptome sequencing of tumor and matched normal tissues from a patient with meningeal malignant SFT identified a <i>NAB2-STAT6</i> fusion in the tumor tissue. The fusion also was found in all of the 51 other SFT samples tested. In benign prostate cells, lentiviral-mediated overexpression of the fusion protein increased cell proliferation compared with normal expression. Next steps for both groups include testing the effects of inhibiting <i>STAT6</i> or downstream signaling targets. SciBX 6(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.83 Published online Jan. 31, 2013	Findings in first study unpatented; unavailable for licensing Patent application filed for findings in second study; available for licensing	Chmielecki, J. <i>et al. Nat. Genet.</i>; published online Jan. 13, 2013; doi:10.1038/ng.2522 Contact: Matthew Meyerson, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: matthew_meyerson@dfci.harvard.edu Robinson, D.R. <i>et al. Nat. Genet.</i>; published online Jan. 13, 2013; doi:10.1038/ng.2509 Contact: Arul M. Chinnaiyan, University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, Mich. e-mail: arul@umich.edu Contact: Cristina R. Antonescu, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y. e-mail: antonesc@mskcc.org