This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Thyroid cancer	VEGF	<p>Mouse and human studies suggest Votrient pazopanib, a VEGF signaling inhibitor, could help improve the efficacy of paclitaxel in anaplastic thyroid cancer. In a mouse xenograft model of human anaplastic thyroid cancer, paclitaxel plus Votrient decreased tumor volume compared with either compound alone. In a single patient who had anaplastic thyroid cancer with lung metastases, paclitaxel plus Votrient led to durable regression of metastatic disease. Next steps could include running a clinical trial of the combination in patients with anaplastic thyroid cancer.</p> <p>GlaxoSmithKline plc markets Votrient to treat renal cell carcinoma (RCC) and advanced soft tissue sarcomas. The drug is in Phase II testing to treat thyroid cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 6(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.85 Published online Jan. 31, 2013</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Isham, C.R. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Jan. 2, 2013; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3004358</p> <p>Contact: Keith C. Bible, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn. e-mail: bible.keith@mayo.edu</p>