This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	c-Myc (MYC); MYC associated factor X (MAX)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies have identified compounds that could inhibit the MYC-MAX interaction and help treat cancer. In an <i>in vitro</i> DNA binding assay, four compounds inhibited DNA binding by MYC-MAX heterodimers. In <i>in vitro</i> binding assays, the best soluble compound directly bound to MYC and disrupted MYC-MAX heterodimers. In multiple MYC-dependent cancer cell lines and in mouse xenograft models, the compound inhibited tumor cell proliferation, whereas vehicle did not. Next steps include making additional structural derivatives of the compounds to understand their interaction with MYC.</p> <p>SciBX 7(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1035 Published online Sept. 11, 2014</p>	Patent filed; licensed to Sorrento Therapeutics Inc.	<p>Hart, J.R. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Aug. 11, 2014; doi:10.1073/pnas.1319488111 Contact: Kim D. Janda, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: kdjanda@scripps.edu Contact: Peter K. Vogt, same affiliation as above e-mail: pkvogt@scripps.edu</p>