This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain cancer	Transforming growth factor- β 1 (TGFB1)	<p>Studies in mice and patient samples suggest antagonizing TGFB1 signaling could help treat medulloblastoma. In tumor samples from patients with medulloblastoma, levels of dimeric, mature TGFB1 were greater than those in tumor samples from patients with glioma or brain samples from healthy individuals. In a genetically engineered mouse model of medulloblastoma, levels of dimeric, mature Tgfb1 were greater than those in healthy mice. In the medulloblastoma mice, antagonizing Tgfb1 signaling by expressing a dominant negative variant of transforming growth factor-β receptor II (Tgfb-RII; TgfbR2) increased motor function, antitumor immunity and survival compared with no alteration. Next steps could include designing TGFB1-inhibitory strategies active in brains of patients with medulloblastomas.</p> <p>SciBX 7(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1092 Published online Sept. 25, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Gate, D. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online July 31, 2014; doi:10.1073/pnas.1412489111</p> <p>Contact: Terrence Town, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: ttown@usc.edu</p> <p>Contact: Richard A. Flavell, Yale University, New Haven, Conn. e-mail: richard.flavell@yale.edu</p>