This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	Breast cancer anti-estrogen resistance 4 (BCAR4)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting BCAR4 could help treat metastatic breast cancer. In primary breast tumor samples or in patients with metastatic disease, levels of the long noncoding RNA (lncRNA) <i>BCAR4</i> were higher than those in corresponding normal tissue or patients without metastases, and high levels correlated with poor survival. In human metastatic breast cancer cell lines, a locked nucleic acid (LNA) that inhibited <i>BCAR4</i> expression decreased invasion and migration compared with a scrambled LNA. In mice injected with human metastatic breast cancer cells, the LNA against <i>BCAR4</i> decreased metastatic tumor growth without affecting primary tumor growth. Next steps include studying the toxicity, pharmacokinetics and metabolism of the LNA against <i>BCAR4</i> .	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Xing, Z. <i>et al. Cell</i> ; published online Nov. 13, 2014; doi:10.1016/j.cell.2014.10.013 Contact: Liuqing Yang, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas e-mail: lyang7@mdanderson.org Contact: Chunru Lin, same affiliation as above e-mail: clin2@mdanderson.org
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