This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Choline kinase- α (CHKA)	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified a CHKA inhibitor that could help treat cancers. An asymmetrical, bicationic inhibitor of CHKA that interacts with the choline-binding site exclusively and opens an adjacent binding site had about 200-fold selectivity for CHKA over CHKB. In human cervical carcinoma cells, the inhibitor induced apoptosis and decreased cell proliferation compared with vehicle. Next steps include testing the inhibitor <i>in vivo</i> and improving selectivity.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Ruiz, B. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Jan. 4, 2014; doi:10.1021/jm401665x Contact: Ana Conejo-García, University of Granada, Granada, Spain e-mail: aconejo@ugr.es
<i>SciBX</i> 7(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.165 Published online Feb. 13, 2014				