This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Ovarian cancer	Ras-related associated with diabetes (RRAD)	Human sample, cell culture and mouse studies suggest increasing RRAD activity could help treat ovarian cancer. In human ovarian cancer tissue, methylation of the RRAD promoter was greater and RRAD expression was lower than those in normal tissue. In cultured human ovarian cancer cells, a demethylating agent led to partial demethylation of the RRAD promoter and increased RRAD expression compared with no treatment. In mice, injection of various RRAD-overexpressing human ovarian cancer cells resulted in no tumor formation or decreased tumor formation compared with injection of matched cell lines with normal RRAD expression. Next steps could include screening for pharmacological agents that increase RRAD activity.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Wang, Y. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online March. 19, 2014; doi:10.1074/jbc.M113.527671 Contact: Zhong Sheng Sun, Beijing Institutes of Life Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China e-mail: zhongshengsun@yeah.net Contact: Kai-Fu Tang, Wenzhou Medical University, Wenzhou, China e-mail: tangkaifu@hotmail.com
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