This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	c-Myc (MYC)	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies suggest blocking both full-length MYC and its N-terminal cleavage product could help treat cancer. MYC upregulation not only promotes cell proliferation and is linked to cancer but also can induce apoptosis under cellular stress conditions. In human colon cancer cell lines, stress conditions promoted conversion of MYC to its cytoplasmic N-terminal cleavage product. In colon cancer cells, vector-induced overexpression of the cleavage product resulted in increased survival under nutrient deprivation, anchorage-independent cell growth and resistance to chemotherapy drugs compared with wild-type expression. Next steps could include assessing the effects of the cleavage product in animal models of cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 7(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.482 Published online May 1, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Conacci-Sorrell, M. <i>et al. Genes Dev.</i>; published online April 1, 2014; doi:10.1101/gad.231894.113</p> <p>Contact: Robert N. Eisenman, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: eisenman@fhcrc.org</p>