This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Pancreatic cancer	Nuclear factor of activated T cells cytoplasmic calcineurin-dependent 1 (NFATc1)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting NFATc1 could help treat pancreatic cancers. In transgenic mice expressing proinflammatory, mutant <i>NFATc1</i> and oncogenic, mutant <i>K-Ras</i> (<i>KRAS</i>), pancreatic tumors developed and survival was decreased compared with that in mice expressing only one of the two mutant genes. In <i>Kras</i> -mutant mice, inhibition of NFATc1 decreased pancreatic epithelial cell proliferation compared with no inhibition and prevented a marker of neoplastic transformation called acinar-to-ductal metaplasia. Next steps include identifying a strategy to specifically inhibit NFATc1 in cancer cells.	Findings unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Baumgart, S. <i>et al. Cancer Discov.</i> ; published online April 2, 2014; doi:10.1158/2159-8290.CD-13-0593 Contact: Volker Ellenrieder, University Medical Center Goettingen, Goettingen, Germany e-mail: ellenrie@med.uni-marburg.de
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