This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 4E (eIF4E)	<i>In vitro</i> studies have identified an inhibitor of eIF4E that could help treat cancer. A derivative of a tricyclic 2-(4-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)thiazol-2-yl) was synthesized that was threefold more potent in competitive binding to eIF4E than the parent compound. In a human melanoma cell line, the new compound inhibited proliferation with an IC ₅₀ of 5.1 μM. Next steps include further optimization of structural and functional aspects of the eIF4E inhibitor.	Patent application filed by Harvard University; licensed to a private entity; available for partnering	Mahalingam, P. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online May 14, 2014; doi:10.1021/jm401733v Contact: Michael Chorev, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Mass. e-mail: michael_chorev@hms.harvard.edu
<i>SciBX</i> 7(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.700 Published online June 19, 2014				