This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Adrenocortical adenoma	Protein kinase cAMP-dependent catalytic- α (PRKACA)	DNA sequencing of patient samples and <i>in vitro</i> studies suggest inhibiting PRKACA could treat adrenocortical carcinoma. DNA sequencing of patient tumors and matched normal tissues identified mutations in about 50% of patients with corticotrophin-dependent Cushing syndrome, which is caused by excessive cortisol production by adrenocortical adenomas. <i>In vitro</i> , disease-associated mutations increased PRKACA's kinase activity compared with wild-type PRKACA. Next steps could include identifying selective PRKACA inhibitors.	Patents pending on biomarkers and therapeutics for corticotrophin-dependent Cushing syndrome; licensing status undisclosed	Sato, Y. <i>et al Science</i> ; published online May 23, 2014; doi:10.1126/science.1252328 Contact: Seishi Ogawa, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan e-mail: sogawa-ty@umin.ac.jp Contact: Yukio Homma, same affiliation as above e-mail: homma-uro@umin.ac.jp
		SciBX 7(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.728 Published online June 26, 2014		