This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain cancer	Growth factor independent 1 transcription repressor (GFI1); GFI1B	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting GFI1 or GFI1B could help treat some types of medulloblastomas. In whole-genome sequencing of human group 3 or 4 medulloblastoma samples, which are the predominant forms of pediatric medulloblastoma, somatic structural variants were identified that activated <i>GFI1</i> or <i>GFI1B</i>. In immunocompromised mice, transplantation of neural stem cells expressing either <i>GFI1</i> or <i>GFI1B</i> with <i>c-Myc</i> (<i>MYC</i>) induced aggressive and often metastatic cancers, whereas expression of <i>GFI1</i>, <i>GFI1B</i> or <i>MYC</i> alone failed to induce tumorigenesis. Next steps include testing the effects of GFI1 or GFI1B inhibition in medulloblastoma models.</p> <p>SciBX 7(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.854 Published online July 31, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Northcott, P.A. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online June 22, 2014; doi:10.1038/nature13379 Contact: Stefan M. Pfister, German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, Germany e-mail: s.pfister@dkfz-heidelberg.de Contact: Peter Lichter, same affiliation as above e-mail: m.macleod@dkfz-heidelberg.de Contact: Robert J. Wechsler-Reya, Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: rwreya@sanfordburnham.org Contact: Jan O. Korbel, European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg, Germany e-mail: korbel@embl.de</p>