

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	RAD51 homolog (RAD51)	<p>An <i>in vitro</i> screen suggests that RAD51 activators could help prevent damage to noncancerous cells caused by chemotherapy. In cultured noncancerous human fibroblasts treated with cisplatin, the small molecule RAD51 activator RS-1 increased cell survival in a dose-dependent manner compared with what was seen in controls treated with cisplatin alone. Next steps include characterizing the interaction between RS-1 and RAD51 and evaluating the compound with DNA-damaging drugs in animal models.</p> <p>SciBX 1(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.920 Published online Oct. 23, 2008</p>	<p>Patent application filed for RS-1 and derivatives for undisclosed indications; available for licensing from University of Chicago's Office of Technology & Intellectual Property</p>	<p>Jayathilaka, K. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA.</i>; published online Sept. 29, 2008; doi:10.1073/pnas.0808046105 Contact: Philip P. Connell, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill. e-mail: pconnell@radonc.uchicago.edu</p>