This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Bladder cancer	Prostate stem cell antigen (PSCA)	A genomewide association study identified a SNP in the *PSCA* gene that could help predict susceptibility to urinary bladder cancer. An analysis of 6,667 patients and 39,590 healthy controls showed that the missense variant rs2294008 in *PSCA* was significantly associated with urinary bladder cancer (p=2.14×10^{-10}). Next steps include studying the functional relevance of the variant. CureVac GmbH's CV9103, a modified single-stranded mRNA coding for four different antigens expressed by prostate cancer cells, including PSCA, is in Phase I/II testing for prostate cancer. AGS-PSCA, a human mAb against PSCA from Astellas Pharma Inc., is in Phase I testing for the same indication. ***SciBX*** **2(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1202** **Published online Aug. 13, 2009**	Patent application filed covering genetic testing for bladder cancer risk; available for licensing	Wu, X. *et al. Nat. Genet.*; published online Aug. 2, 2009; doi:10.1038/ng.421 **Contact:** Xifeng Wu, The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas e-mail: xwu@mdanderson.org