

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer; infertility	ABL tyrosine kinase (ABL; ABL1; c-ABL); tumor protein p63 (TP63; p63)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that inhibiting the ABL-p63 pathway during cisplatin treatment could help prevent chemotherapy-induced ovarian toxicity. In cultured murine ovary sections, a combination of cisplatin plus ABL-targeting Gleevec imatinib reduced cisplatin-induced oocyte death compared with cisplatin alone. In female mice, injection of cisplatin plus Gleevec prevented ovarian follicular depletion compared with injection of cisplatin alone. Next steps include showing that imatinib can prevent chemotherapy-induced ovarian toxicity without altering the activity of cisplatin.</p> <p>Novartis AG markets Gleevec to treat chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) and gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST).</p> <p>SciBX 2(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1435 Published online Oct. 1, 2009</p>	Patent application filed in Italy covering method; unlicensed	<p>Gonfloni, S. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Sept. 27, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.2033</p> <p>Contact: Stefania Gonfloni, University of Rome, Rome, Italy e-mail: stefania.gonfloni@uniroma2.it</p>