This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Acute myeloid leukemia (AML)	MicroRNA-29b (miRNA-29b)	A study in cell culture and in mice suggests that miRNA-29b mimetics could help treat AML. In cultured human myeloid leukemia cells, miRNA-29b transfection reduced growth and increased apoptosis compared with mock transfection. In a mouse xenograft model of AML, injection of synthetic miRNA-29b oligonucleotides reduced tumor size compared with mock treatment. Next steps include developing methods to deliver synthetic miRNA-29b oligonucleotides into AML progenitor cells.	Patents pending; not yet available for licensing	Garzon, R. <i>et al. Blood</i> ; published online Oct. 22, 2009; doi:10.1182/blood-2009-03-211938 Contact: Carlo M. Croce, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio e-mail: carlo.croce@osumc.edu
<i>SciBX</i> 2(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1653 Published online Nov. 19, 2009				