This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Melanoma	Wingless-type MMTV integration site family member 5A (WNT5A)	A study in cell culture identified an <i>N</i> -butyloxycarbonyl hexapeptide inhibitor of WNT5A that could help prevent melanoma-associated metastasis. In two human melanoma cell lines, the hexapeptide, dubbed Box5, inhibited WNT5A-induced migration and invasion better than a random hexameric peptide. Next steps include testing the ability of the peptide to inhibit melanoma metastasis <i>in vivo</i> . SciBX 2(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1661 Published online Nov. 19, 2009	Patent application filed covering Box5 and its use as a antimetastatic compound; available for licensing from WntResearch AB	Jenei, V. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Nov. 9, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0909409106 Contact: Victoria Sherwood, Lund University, Lund, Sweden e-mail: victoria.sherwood@med.lu.se