

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Cancer	Mdm2 p53 binding protein homolog (MDM2); tumor protein p53 (TP53; p53)	<p>A study in mice identified an inhibitor of the MDM2-p53 interaction that could help treat cancer. In a mouse model of human sarcoma, the inhibitor alone or in combination with irinotecan blocked tumor growth compared with vehicle. <i>In vitro</i>, the compound bound MDM2 with a <math>K_i</math> of 0.6 nM. Ascenta Therapeutics Inc. is running preclinical studies of the compound.</p> <p>At least six companies have compounds targeting p53 or MDM2 in Phase II or earlier to treat cancer.</p> <p><b>SciBX 2(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1723</b>  <b>Published online Dec. 10, 2009</b></p>	<p>Multiple patent applications filed covering orally active small molecule inhibitors of the MDM2-p53 interaction; licensed to Ascenta Therapeutics</p>	<p>Yu, S. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Nov. 24, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm901400z  <b>Contact:</b> Shaomeng Wang, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.            e-mail: <a href="mailto:shaomeng@umich.edu">shaomeng@umich.edu</a></p>