This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain cancer	Isocitrate dehydrogenase 1 (IDH1)	A study in cell culture suggests that <i>R</i> (-)-2-hydroxyglutarate (2HG) levels could be used as a biomarker for gliomas. <i>In vitro</i> studies showed that a mutated form of IDH1 found in about 80% of grade II–III gliomas catalyzed the formation of 2HG. Next steps include ongoing efforts at Agios Pharmaceuticals to define the role of IDH1 in glioma initiation and progression and to evaluate the potential of 2HG as a disease biomarker. <i>SciBX</i> 2(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1754 Published online Dec. 17, 2009	Multiple patent applications filed covering mutant IDH1 as a potential therapeutic target and 2HG as a potential biomarker; unlicensed	Dang, L. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online Nov. 22, 2009; doi:10.1038/nature08617 Contact: Shin-San Michael Su, Agios Pharmaceuticals, Boston, Mass. e-mail: michael.su@agios.com