

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Bone cancer	WNT inhibitory factor 1 (WIF1)	<p>A study in mice and in cell culture suggests that preventing the loss of WIF1 may be useful for treating osteosarcoma. In transformed osteosarcoma cells, recombinant WIF1 inhibited growth, whereas growth of primary osteoblasts was unaffected. In <i>Wif1^{-/-}</i> mice, the incidence of spontaneous and radiation-induced osteosarcomas was higher than it was in wild-type controls. Next steps include evaluating WIF1 as a therapeutic in animal models of cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 2(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.523 Published online April 2, 2009</p>	Patented for use in cancer; licensed to Amgen Inc.	<p>Kansara, M. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online March 23, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI37175</p> <p>Contact: David M. Thomas, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia e-mail: david.thomas@petermac.org</p>