

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Cancer	Protein kinase B (PKB; Akt)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and cell culture studies identified a series of pyranonaphthoquinone lactones with Akt-specific inhibitory activity that could be useful for treating cancer. In breast cancer cells, the compounds inhibited cell growth with IC<sub>50</sub> values in the nanomolar to low micromolar range. Wyeth did not disclose the status of the compounds, but next steps could include further optimization and <i>in vivo</i> testing.</p> <p>At least four companies have Akt inhibitors in Phase II or earlier to treat cancer.</p> <p><b>SciBX 2(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.526</b>  <b>Published online April 2, 2009</b></p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Salaski, E.J. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online March 23, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900075g</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Edward J. Salaski, Wyeth Research, Pearl River, N.Y.            e-mail: <a href="mailto:salaski@wyeth.com">salaski@wyeth.com</a></p>