This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Melanoma	Actin-related protein 2/3 complex, subunit 2 (ARPC2); fibronectin 1 (FN1); osteopontin (OPN; SPP1); regulator of G-protein signaling 1 (RGS1); wingless-type MMTV integration site family member 2 (WNT2)	<p>A study in human biopsies revealed five molecular markers to help diagnose melanoma. In 693 melanocytic neoplasms, immunohistochemical screening for overexpression of ARPC2, FN1, SPP1, RGS1 and WNT2 distinguished melanoma samples from benign melanocytic lesions with 95% specificity and 91% sensitivity. Next steps include implementing the diagnostic approach in the clinic.</p> <p>SciBX 2(14); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.574 Published online April 9, 2009</p>	Patents covering findings filed through the University of California; Melanoma Diagnostics Inc. has an exclusive license to the IP	<p>Kashani-Sabet, M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online March 30, 2009; doi:10.1038/pnas.0901185106</p> <p>Contact: Mohammed Kashani-Sabet, University of California, San Francisco Comprehensive Cancer Center, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail kashanim@derm.ucsf.edu</p>