

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	RAD50 homolog (RAD50)	A study in mice and in cell culture suggests that inhibiting RAD50 could sensitize cancers to the generic cancer drug cisplatin. In a mouse xenograft model of cisplatin-resistant human head and neck cancer, cisplatin plus an adenoviral vector that disrupted RAD50 caused tumor regression and increased apoptosis compared with either agent alone ($p < 0.001$). In cisplatin-resistant head and neck cancer cell lines, the vector enhanced cisplatin-induced DNA damage compared with no treatment. Next steps could include evaluating the combination therapy in additional cancer models.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Abuzeid, W.M. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online June 1, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI33816 Contact: Daqing Li, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: lidaqing@mail.med.upenn.edu
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