

### This week in therapeutics

| Indication    | Target/marker/pathway         | Summary  | Licensing status   | Publication and contact information  |
|---------------|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Cancer</b> |                               |  |  |  |
| Cancer        | Tumor protein p53 (TP53; p53) | <p>Cell culture studies identified short oligonucleotide inhibitors of p53 synthesis that could help prevent chemotherapy-induced damage to healthy cells. In cultured cells, transfection with a 5' complementary oligonucleotide significantly decreased fluorouracil-mediated cell death compared with transfection with a control oligonucleotide. Next steps include developing oligonucleotides and testing them in mouse models of undisclosed diseases.</p> <p>Eleos Inc.'s Aezea cenersen (EL625), an antisense oligonucleotide against p53, is in Phase II testing to treat chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) and small lymphocytic lymphoma.</p> <p>Novartis AG and Quark Pharmaceuticals Inc.'s QPI-1002, a small interfering RNA against p53, is in Phase II testing to prevent delayed graft function in renal transplant patients and is in Phase I testing to prevent acute kidney injury in patients undergoing major cardiovascular surgery.</p> <p><b>SciBX 3(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1147</b><br/> <b>Published online Sept. 30, 2010</b></p> | <p>Patent application filed; available for licensing</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Scott Elmer, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tenn.<br/>           e-mail: <a href="mailto:scott.elmer@stjude.org">scott.elmer@stjude.org</a></p> | <p>Chen, J. &amp; Kastan, M.B. <i>Genes Dev.</i>; published online Sept. 13, 2010; doi:10.1101/gad.1968910</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Michael B. Kastan, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tenn.<br/>           e-mail: <a href="mailto:michael.kastan@stjude.org">michael.kastan@stjude.org</a></p> |