

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	Phosphodiesterase-5 (PDE-5)	<p>A study in mice suggests that sildenafil could help increase the efficacy of doxorubicin chemotherapy in prostate cancer and decrease doxorubicin's cardiotoxicity. In a mouse model of human prostate cancer, sildenafil plus doxorubicin lowered tumor growth compared with either drug alone ($p=0.001$). In mice, sildenafil decreased doxorubicin-induced cardiac dysfunction compared with saline control. Next steps include clinical studies of the combination in patients with prostate cancer.</p> <p>Pfizer Inc. markets sildenafil as Viagra and Revatio to treat erectile dysfunction (ED) and pulmonary arterial hypertension, respectively.</p> <p>Johnson & Johnson markets Doxil liposomal doxorubicin to treat various cancers.</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Das, A. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Sept. 27, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1006965107</p> <p>Contact: Rakesh C. Kukreja, VCU Medical Center, Richmond, Va. e-mail: rakesh@vcu.edu</p>
		<p>SciBX 3(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1179 Published online Oct. 7, 2010</p>		