This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Liver cancer	MicroRNA-151 (miR-151)	<p>A study in mice and in cell culture suggests that inhibiting miR-151 could help prevent metastasis of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). In mice transplanted with human hepatoma cells, overexpression of miR-151 significantly increased the number of metastatic nodules compared with expression of a control vector ($p=0.0031$). In a separate mouse model of intrahepatic HCC metastasis, an miR-151 antagomir significantly decreased the number of metastatic nodules compared with a control antagomir ($p=0.0029$). Next steps include developing genetic or small molecule inhibitors of miR-151.</p> <p>SciBX 3(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.404 Published online April 1, 2010</p>	Work unpatented; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Ding, J. <i>et al. Nat. Cell Biol.</i>; published online March 21, 2010; doi:10.1038/ncb2039</p> <p>Contact: Xianghuo He, Shanghai Cancer Institute, Shanghai, China e-mail: xhhe@shsci.org</p>