

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Pyruvate dehydrogenase kinase (PDK); DNA	<p>A study in cell culture suggests that mitaplatin could help treat cancer. Mitaplatin is a fusion of cisplatin and generic dichloroacetate, which target DNA and PDK, respectively. In a panel of human cells, mitaplatin showed greater selectivity for cancer cells over normal fibroblasts than did cisplatin alone or a mixture of cisplatin and dichloroacetate. In a cisplatin-resistant human ovarian carcinoma cell line, mitaplatin had greater cytotoxicity than cisplatin. Next steps include evaluating the toxicity and pharmacokinetics of mitaplatin in rodent cancer models.</p> <p>SciBX 3(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.43 Published online Jan. 14, 2010</p>	<p>Patent application filed covering composition of matter and methods of use; available for licensing from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Licensing Office</p> <p>Contact: Jim Freedman, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: jrftlo@mit.edu</p>	<p>Dhar, S. & Lippard, S.J. <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Dec. 7, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0912276106</p> <p>Contact: Stephen J. Lippard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: lippard@mit.edu</p>