This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Ovarian cancer	Focal adhesion kinase (FAK)	Studies in mice and in human samples suggest that blocking FAK activation could help prevent ovarian cancer. In samples from 80 women, high levels of FAK activation were associated with reduced overall survival ($p < 0.001$). In a mouse model of ovarian cancer, small interfering RNA-mediated knockdown of FAK improved survival compared with that in controls. Next steps include looking at other cancer types and studying the mechanism.	Patent application filed covering the neutral liposome method used to deliver FAK small interfering RNA; licensing status undisclosed	Sood, A. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online April 12, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI40802 Contact: Anil K. Sood, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas e-mail: asood@mdanderson.org
<i>SciBX</i> 3(16); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.495 Published online April 22, 2010				