

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	DNA-directed DNA polymerase- θ (POLQ)	<p>A study in patient samples and in cell culture suggests that POLQ could help predict outcomes in breast cancer. In samples from patient cohorts from France and the U.K., POLQ expression was higher in breast cancer tissue than in normal breast tissue. Patients with high POLQ expression had a 4.3-fold greater risk of death than those with low POLQ expression ($p=0.0001$). In normal human cell lines, POLQ overexpression triggered the DNA damage response and resulted in more chromosomal abnormalities compared with normal POLQ expression. Next steps include studying the effects of POLQ expression on tumor incidence and progression in mouse xenograft models.</p> <p>SciBX 3(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.853 Published online July 22, 2010</p>	Patent status undisclosed; available for licensing from the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)	<p>Lemée, F. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online July 6, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0910759107</p> <p>Contact: Christophe Cazaux, University of Toulouse, Toulouse, France e-mail: cazaux@ipbs.fr</p>