

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Cancer	Serum/glucocorticoid-regulated kinase 2 (SGK2); p21 protein (Cdc42 Rac)-activated kinase 3 (PAK3)	A cell culture study suggests that inhibiting SGK2 or PAK3 could help treat cancers with deactivated tumor protein p53 (TP53; p53). Depletion of PAK3 or SGK2 in human cervical cancer cell lines with degraded p53 led to less cell proliferation than depletion in cell lines without p53 degradation. In human cervical, mammary or prostate cancer cells, co-depletion of p53 and either PAK3 or SGK2 decreased cell viability compared with depletion of any of the proteins individually. Next steps include identifying small molecule SGK2 and PAK3 inhibitors to test in cancer models.  <i>SciBX</i> 3(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.857 Published online July 22, 2010	Patent application filed; licensed by Augusta Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Baldwin, A. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online June 28, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1007462107 <b>Contact:</b> Karl Munger, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: <a href="mailto:kmunger@rics.bwh.harvard.edu">kmunger@rics.bwh.harvard.edu</a> <b>Contact:</b> Ed Harlow, same affiliation as above e-mail: <a href="mailto:eharlow@hms.harvard.edu">eharlow@hms.harvard.edu</a>