This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	Solute carrier family 40 iron-regulated transporter member 1 (SLC40A1; SLC11A3); hepcidin antimicrobial peptide (HAMP)	<i>In vitro</i> and human tissue studies suggest that SLC40A1 and HAMP could be useful prognostic markers for breast cancer. In human breast cancer cell lines and breast tumors, SLC40A1 levels were lower and HAMP levels were higher than those in normal controls. In breast cancer patients, low levels of SLC40A1 in tumors correlated with shorter disease-free and metastasis-free survival ($p \leq 0.003$). Compared with estrogen receptor-positive breast cancer patients with normal SCL40A1 and HAMP levels, estrogen receptor-positive breast cancer patients with low levels of SCL40A1 and high levels of HAMP in tumors had a prognosis of 10-year metastasis-free survival ($p = 0.0005$). Future studies could include developing a prognostic assay for breast cancer patients based on these findings. SciBX 3(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.947 Published online Aug. 12, 2010	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Pinnix, Z.K. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i> ; published online Aug. 4, 2010; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3001127 Contact: Frank M. Torti, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N.C. e-mail: ftorti@wfubmc.edu