

THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	Heat shock protein 90 (Hsp90); Hsp70	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified an Hsp90 inhibitor that could help treat breast cancer. Hsp90 inhibitors that work by blocking the Hsp90 ATP-binding site can promote cancer cell survival through increased expression of Hsp70. In triple-negative breast cancer cells, a compound that blocked Hsp90's interaction with a cochaperone lowered Hsp70 expression, whereas a compound that blocked the Hsp90 ATP-binding site increased Hsp70 expression. The interaction inhibitor also increased cell-cycle arrest and apoptosis and decreased cell migration compared with a compound that blocked the Hsp90 ATP-binding site. Next steps could include testing the interaction inhibitor in mouse models of cancer. At least 13 companies have Hsp90 inhibitors in clinical and preclinical testing to treat cancer.	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Pimienta, G. <i>et al. Mol. Pharm.</i> ; published online Sept. 1, 2011; doi:10.1021/mp200346y Contact: Genaro Pimienta, Yale University, New Haven, Conn. e-mail: genaro.pimienta-rosales@yale.edu
		SciBX 4(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1034		

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