This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Not applicable	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified illudin M-based compounds that could help treat cancer. Ferrocene and ruthenocene diester derivatives of the cytotoxic fungal metabolite illudin M had low micromolar IC₅₀ values in 8 human cancer cell lines and were about 5- to 50-fold more potent in these cells than in normal fibroblasts. In mice, both types of derivatives were well tolerated, whereas illudin M caused toxicity. Next steps include testing activity of the compounds in xenograft mouse models of cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 4(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1037 Published online Sept. 22, 2011</p>	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Schobert, R. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Aug. 18, 2011; doi:10.1021/jm200359n Contact: Thomas Mueller, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Halle, Germany e-mail: thomas.mueller@medizin.uni-halle.de Contact: Rainer Schobert, University of Bayreuth, Bayreuth, Germany e-mail: Rainer.Schobert@unibayreuth.de</p>