

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Head and neck cancer	Mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR; FRAP; RAFT1)	<p>A study in mice suggests mTOR inhibitors may help treat head and neck squamous cell carcinomas (HNSCCs). In a mouse model of HNSCC, the mTOR inhibitor rapamycin decreased primary tumor growth and metastases, prevented tumor lymphangiogenesis and increased survival compared with vehicle. Ongoing work includes a Phase I/II trial of rapamycin as a neoadjuvant to treat HNSCC. At least 14 companies have mTOR inhibitors in stages from preclinical to marketed for various cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 4(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1206 Published online Nov. 3, 2011</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Patel, V. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online Oct. 5, 2011; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-10-3192 Contact: J. Silvio Gutkind, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: sg39v@nih.gov</p>