

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Dopamine D2 receptor	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest dopamine or dopamine D2 receptor agonists could help treat cancer. In mice with human prostate and colon tumors, exogenous dopamine stabilized blood vessels and lowered hypoxia compared with no treatment. Unstable tumor vasculature could limit chemotherapy delivery to tumors. In mice, dopamine increased 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) accumulation at the tumor and decreased tumor growth compared with dopamine or 5-FU alone. Next steps include testing dopamine and existing D2 receptor agonists in cancer patients.</p> <p>SciBX 4(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1347 Published online Dec. 15, 2011</p>	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Chakroborty, D. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Dec. 5, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1108696108 Contact: Sujit Basu, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio e-mail: sujit.basu@osumc.edu Contact: Partha Sarathi Dasgupta, Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata, India e-mail: partha42002@yahoo.com</p>