This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	Prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA; FOLH1; GCPII)	<p>A study in rodents suggests that PSMA-targeting nanoparticles loaded with a cisplatin prodrug could help treat prostate cancer with fewer side effects than free cisplatin. In a mouse model of prostate cancer, 0.3 mg/kg of the PSMA-targeted, prodrug-loaded nanoparticles resulted in tumor regression, with efficacy comparable to that of 1 mg/kg of free cisplatin. In rats and mice, the prodrug-loaded nanoparticles had less toxicity and caused less weight loss than free cisplatin. Researchers did not disclose next steps, which could include optimizing the nanoparticles for clinical studies.</p> <p>SciBX 4(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.162 Published online Feb. 10, 2011</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing	<p>Dhar, S. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Jan. 10, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1011379108 Contact: Omid C. Farokhzad, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: ofarokhzad@zeus.bwh.harvard.edu Contact: Stephen J. Lippard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: lippard@mit.edu</p>