This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)	NF-κB; inhibitor of κ light polypeptide gene enhancer in B cells kinase-β (IKBKB)	<p>Patient sample and mouse studies suggest that inhibiting IKBKB could help treat erlotinib-resistant NSCLC. In NSCLC patients treated with Tarceva erlotinib, low levels of the NF-κB activator IKBKB correlated with poor response and lower survival. In mice with xenograft NSCLC tumors, Tarceva plus knockdown of <i>IKBKB</i> or other NF-κB signaling genes decreased tumor growth compared with erlotinib alone. Ongoing work includes testing compounds that inhibit IKBKB and other NF-κB signaling molecules in the mouse models.</p> <p>Tarceva, an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) inhibitor, is marketed by OSI Pharmaceuticals Inc., Astellas Pharma Inc. and Roche's Genentech Inc. unit for the treatment of NSCLC and pancreatic cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 4(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.368 Published online March 31, 2011</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Bivona, T.G. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online March 23, 2011; doi:10.1038/nature09870</p> <p>Contact: Charles L. Sawyers, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y. e-mail: sawyersc@mskcc.org</p>