

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Leukemia	MEK	<p>Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting MEK could help treat myelomonocytic leukemia (MML). In a mouse model of MML, a small molecule MEK inhibitor increased survival and decreased white blood cell count and spleen weight compared with vehicle controls. Next steps could include testing the efficacy of small molecule MEK inhibitors in preclinical models of MML.</p> <p>At least seven companies have small molecule MEK inhibitors in Phase I to Phase III trials for cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 4(14); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.395 Published online April 7, 2011</p>	Unpatented; licensing status unavailable	<p>Lyubynska, N. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online March 30, 2011; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3001069</p> <p>Contact: Benjamin S. Braun, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: braunb@peds.ucsf.edu</p>