

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Tubulin	<i>In vitro</i> and rat studies identified tubulin polymerization inhibitors that could help treat cancer. In cancer cell lines, including those resistant to tubulin-targeting therapies, 4-substituted methoxybenzoyl-aryl-thiazole (SMART) derivatives showed greater antiproliferative potency than the parent compound. Also, the derivatives were more soluble and did not show susceptibility to drug resistance. In rats, the derivatives had better bioavailability than the parent compound. Next steps could include testing the derivatives in animal cancer models.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Lu, Y. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online May 10, 2011; doi:10.1021/jm2003427 Contact: Duane D. Miller, The University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, Tenn. e-mail: dmiller@uthsc.edu

SciBX 4(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.706
Published online June 23, 2011