This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	Phosphoglycerate dehydrogenase (PHGDH)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting PHGDH or other components of the serine biosynthetic pathway could help treat breast cancers. In breast cancer cells with PHGDH overexpression, PHGDH-targeting small hairpin RNA decreased cellular serine biosynthetic pathway flux and proliferation compared with control shRNA. Mice with PHGDH shRNA-expressing human breast cancer cells had less tumor growth than mice with control shRNA-expressing human breast cancer cells. Next steps include screening the entire set of human metabolic enzymes and transporters to test their involvement in cancer cell metabolism.	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Possemato, R. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online July 14, 2011; doi:10.1038/nature10350 Contact: David M. Sabatini, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: sabatini@wi.mit.edu
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