This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	β-Catenin (CTNNB1)	*In vitro* and cell culture studies identified a CTNNB1 antagonist that could help treat wingless-type MMTV integration site (WNT) and CTNNB1–driven cancers. A stapled peptide, identified by a combination of structure-based design and directed evolution, bound CTNNB1 at a coactivator recruitment site with nanomolar affinity. In colorectal cancer cell lines driven by WNT and CTNNB1 signaling, the stapled peptide decreased cell proliferation compared with an inactive control peptide. Next steps could include testing the efficacy of the stapled peptide *in vivo*. *SciBX* 5(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1155 Published online Nov. 8, 2012	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Grossmann, T.N. *et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*; published online Oct. 15, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1208396109 **Contact:** Gregory L. Verdine, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: gregory_verdine@harvard.edu