

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Pancreatic cancer	$\gamma$ -Secretase	<p>Studies in mice suggest inhibiting <math>\gamma</math>-secretase could help treat pancreatic cancer. In a mouse model of pancreatic cancer, the <math>\gamma</math>-secretase inhibitor MRK003 plus gemcitabine increased survival compared with either agent alone and decreased tumor microvessel density compared with vehicle. Ongoing work includes a Phase I/IIa trial of the human analog of MRK003 (MK-0752) sponsored by Cancer Research UK. At least 10 companies have <math>\gamma</math>-secretase inhibitors in Phase II testing or earlier to treat neurological indications. MK-0752, a <math>\gamma</math>-secretase inhibitor from Merck &amp; Co. Inc., is in Phase I/II trials to treat pancreatic and breast cancers. R4733, a <math>\gamma</math>-secretase inhibitor from Roche, is in Phase I testing for solid tumors.</p> <p><b>SciBX 5(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.253</b>  <b>Published online March 8, 2012</b></p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Cook, N. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online Feb. 20, 2012; doi:10.1084/jem.20111923  <b>Contact:</b> David A. Tuveson, Cambridge Research Institute, Cancer Research UK, Cambridge, U.K.                      e-mail: <a href="mailto:david.tuveson@cancer.org.uk">david.tuveson@cancer.org.uk</a></p>