This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	NUAK family SNF-like kinase 1 (NUAK1; ARK5); c-Myc (MYC)	<p>Mouse and cell culture studies suggest inhibiting ARK5 could help treat MYC-driven cancers. In a human osteosarcoma cell line, small hairpin RNA against ARK5 or a pharmacological inhibitor of ARK5 increased MYC-dependent cell death compared with control shRNA or vehicle. In a mouse model of MYC-driven hepatocellular carcinoma, shRNA against ARK5 decreased tumor frequency and increased survival compared with control shRNA. Next steps include determining whether the observed anticancer effects occur in primary human tumor cells and developing small molecule ARK5 inhibitors.</p> <p>SciBX 5(14); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.360 Published online April 5, 2012</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Liu, L. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online March 28, 2012; doi:10.1038/nature10927</p> <p>Contact: Martin Eilers, University of Wuerzburg, Wuerzburg, Germany e-mail: martin.eilers@biozentrum.uni-wuerzburg.de</p>