This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Not applicable	<i>In vitro</i> and cell culture studies suggest electron-donor compounds could be useful adjuncts to improve cisplatin therapy for cancer. <i>In vitro</i> , the electron-donor compound <i>N,N,N',N'</i> -tetramethyl- <i>p</i> -phenylenediamine (TMPD) increased DNA damage caused by cisplatin compared with vehicle. In HeLA cells and ovarian tumor cells, TMPD in combination with cisplatin decreased cell viability compared with cisplatin treatment alone. Next steps include <i>in vivo</i> testing of TMPD in combination with cisplatin.	Patent pending; available for licensing	Luo, T. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online June 8, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1203451109 Contact: Qing-Bin Lu, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada e-mail: qblu@uwaterloo.ca
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