This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Acute myelogenous leukemia (AML); leukemia	<i>Neuroblastoma</i> <i>Ras viral</i> <i>oncogene (NRAS)</i> ; lysophospholipase I (LYPLA1; APT-1)	Cell culture studies suggest inhibiting APT-1 could help treat mutant <i>NRAS</i> -driven leukemias. In bone marrow cells from AML mice, treatment with a small molecule APT-1 inhibitor decreased the growth of <i>Nras</i> mutant cells compared with no treatment. The inhibitor had no effect on the growth of <i>K-Ras</i> mutant cells. Next steps include testing the inhibitor in mouse models of mutant <i>NRAS</i> -driven leukemia.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Xu, J. <i>et al. Blood</i> ; published online Dec. 5, 2011; doi:10.1182/blood-2011-06-358960 Contact: Kevin Shannon, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: shannonk@peds.ucsf.edu
<i>SciBX</i> 5(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.7 Published online Jan. 5, 2012				