This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)	<i>BRAF</i>	<p>Patient and cell culture studies suggest NSCLC patients with inactivating <i>BRAF</i> mutations may respond to Sprycel dasatinib. In a previously conducted Phase II trial of Sprycel in 34 patients with NSCLC, one patient went into complete remission, whereas none of the other patients responded. Genomic analysis of tumor tissue identified a <i>BRAF</i>-inactivating mutation that was present exclusively in that one patient. In NSCLC cell lines with inactivating <i>BRAF</i> mutations, Sprycel induced senescence that was irreversible after four days of treatment. Next steps include a clinical trial of Sprycel in patients with NSCLC that have an inactivating <i>BRAF</i> mutation.</p> <p>Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. and Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. market Sprycel for acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) and chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML).</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 5(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.726 Published online July 19, 2012</p>	Patent application filed covering utilization of the <i>BRAF</i> mutant to identify patients; available for licensing	<p>Sen, B. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online May 30, 2012; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3003513</p> <p>Contact: Faye M. Johnson, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas</p> <p>e-mail: fmjohns@mdanderson.org</p>