This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Tubulin	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest azaindole-based tubulin inhibitors could help treat cancer. Chemical synthesis, SAR studies and <i>in vitro</i> testing of azaindole analogs identified a lead compound that bound tubulin to inhibit its polymerization at single-digit nanomolar IC₅₀ values. The lead compound also inhibited proliferation of human cervical, colorectal, stomach and lung cancer cell lines at low nanomolar IC₅₀ values. In mice bearing human colon tumors, the lead compound decreased tumor growth compared with vehicle. Futures studies could include testing the lead compound in additional xenograft tumor models.</p> <p>SciBX 6(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1185 Published online Oct. 31, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Lee, H.-Y. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Sept. 24, 2013; doi:10.1021/jm4011115</p> <p>Contact: Jing-Ping Liou, Taipei Medical University, Taipei, Taiwan e-mail: jpl@tmu.edu.tw</p> <p>Contact: Jang-Yang Chang, National Health Research Institutes, Tainan, Taiwan e-mail: jychang@nhri.org.tw</p>