This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)	Neuregulin 1 (NRG1); epidermal growth factor receptor 3 (EGFR3; HER3; ErbB3); HER4 (EGFR4; ErbB4)	Cell culture and mouse studies suggest antagonizing NRG1, HER3 or HER4 could be useful for preventing chemotherapy resistance in NSCLC. In cultured human NSCLC tumors, cell lines with high levels of NRG1 were resistant to a range of chemotherapeutic agents. In mice, chemotherapy in combination with antibodies against NRG1 or its receptors, HER3 and HER4, decreased the regrowth of chemotherapy-resistant tumors and increased survival compared with chemotherapy alone. Next steps include mechanistic studies of how NRG1 and HER3/HER4 signaling prevents chemotherapeutic efficacy.	Patent pending; licensing status undisclosed	Hegde, G.V. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i> ; published online Feb. 6, 2013; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3004438 Contact: Erica L. Jackson, Genentech Inc., South San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: ericaj@gene.com
<i>SciBX</i> 6(7); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.160 Published online Feb. 21, 2013				