This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	<i>Dedicator of cytokinesis 1 (DOCK1)</i>	<p>Patient sample and mouse studies suggest inhibiting <i>DOCK1</i> could help prevent breast cancer metastasis. In tumor samples from patients with breast cancer, increased expression of <i>DOCK1</i> was associated with poor survival in HER2 (EGFR2; ERBB2; neu)-positive and basal breast cancers. In a mouse model for HER2-positive breast cancer, mammary gland-specific knockout of <i>Dock1</i> decreased primary tumor burden and metastasis to lungs compared with no knockout. In mice injected with HER2-positive breast cancer, small interfering RNA-mediated knockdown of <i>DOCK1</i> led to decreased metastases compared with no knockdown. Next steps include identifying compounds that block <i>DOCK1</i> and evaluating them in animal models for cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 6(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.410 Published online May 2, 2013</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing from Kyushu University's Intellectual Property Management Center	<p>Laurin, M. <i>et al.</i> <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online April 16, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1213050110</p> <p>Contact: Jean-François Côté, Montreal Institute of Clinical Research, Montreal, Quebec, Canada e-mail: jean-francois.cote@ircm.qc.ca</p>