

This week in therapeutics

| Indication | Target/marker/pathway | Summary | Licensing status | Publication and contact information |
|---------------|--|--|---|--|
| Cancer | | | | |
| Cancer | PTEN (MMAC1; TEP1); phosphoinositide 3-kinase (PI3K) | Cell culture and mouse studies identified a secreted variant of PTEN that could help treat cancer. PTEN is a tumor suppressor that regulates PI3K signaling and was not thought to be secreted. Computational analysis and studies in mouse and human cells identified a translational variant of PTEN that is expressed, secreted and taken up by normal and cancer cells. In a xenograft mouse model for cancer, intraperitoneal injection of the PTEN variant decreased tumor growth compared with injection of a control protein. Next steps include studying the loss of function of the secreted PTEN variant in mice. | Patent application filed by Columbia University; available for licensing from Columbia Technology Ventures Contact: Peter Golikov, Columbia Technology Ventures, New York, N.Y. e-mail: peter.golikov@columbia.edu | Hopkins, B.D. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online June 6, 2013; doi:10.1126/science.1234907 Contact: Ramon Parsons, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, N.Y. e-mail: ramon.parsons@mssm.edu |
| | | SciBX 6(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.649 Published online July 11, 2013 | | |