

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Cancer	Ras; rho guanine nucleotide exchange factors (ARHGEFs; GEFs)	An <i>in vitro</i> study suggests prolonged inhibition of interactions between Ras and GEFs could help treat cancer. Oncogenic mutations in Ras fix the protein in an active, GTP-bound conformation. In multiple cancer cell lines, prolonged treatment with andrographolide (AGP), a compound that is predicted to block Ras-GEF interaction, inhibited GTP loading, oncogenic Ras signaling and cell growth. Next steps include optimizing AGP derivatives for potency and <i>in vivo</i> application.  <b>SciBX 6(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.650</b> <b>Published online July 11, 2013</b>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Hocker, H.J. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online June 4, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1300016110 <b>Contact:</b> Alemayehu A. Gorfe, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, Texas e-mail: <a href="mailto:alemayehu.g.abebe@uth.tmc.edu">alemayehu.g.abebe@uth.tmc.edu</a> <b>Contact:</b> John F. Hancock, same affiliation as above e-mail: <a href="mailto:john.f.hancock@uth.tmc.edu">john.f.hancock@uth.tmc.edu</a> <b>Contact:</b> Johnson Stanslas, University Putra Malaysia, Selangor, Malaysia e-mail: <a href="mailto:jstanslas@yahoo.co.uk">jstanslas@yahoo.co.uk</a>