

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Tubulin	<p>Mouse studies suggest conjugates of paclitaxel and β-cyclodextrin polyrotaxane polymers could help treat cancer and have improved safety profiles. In mice with murine hepatic tumors, a β-cyclodextrin polyrotaxane and paclitaxel conjugate preferentially accumulated in tumor tissue and decreased tumor growth and increased survival compared with free paclitaxel. The conjugate did not cause observable toxicity to the liver or other organs. Planned studies include optimizing and testing the conjugate in animal models for other cancers.</p> <p>The tubulin inhibitor paclitaxel is a generic chemotherapeutic.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 6(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.651 Published online July 11, 2013</p>	Patent application filed; unlicensed	<p>Yu, S. <i>et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i>; published online June 5, 2013; doi:10.1002/anie.201301397 Contact: Xiqun Jiang, Nanjing University, Nanjing, China e-mail: jiangx@nju.edu.cn Contact: Wei Wu, same affiliation as above e-mail: wuwei@nju.edu.cn</p>