

## THE DISTILLERY

## This week in therapeutics

| Indication      | Target/marker/<br>pathway                   | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Licensing status                         | Publication and contact<br>information                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cancer          |                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Prostate cancer | Kallikrein-related<br>peptidase 4<br>(KLK4) | Cell culture and mouse studies suggest<br>inhibition of KLK4 could help treat prostate<br>cancer. In an androgen-sensitive prostate<br>cancer cell line, small hairpin RNA–<br>mediated knockdown of <i>KLK4</i> decreased<br>cell proliferation and increased apoptotic<br>cell death compared with no knockdown.<br>In mice, injection of <i>Klk4</i> -depleted prostate<br>cancer cells resulted in slower tumor growth<br>than injection of nondepleted cells. In a<br>mouse xenograft model for prostate cancer,<br><i>Klk4</i> small interfering RNA increased tumor<br>regression compared with control siRNA.<br>Next steps include optimization of siRNA<br>delivery and generation of small molecule<br>KLK4 inhibitors. | Unpatented; unavailable for<br>licensing | Jin, Y. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i><br>published online June 24, 2013;<br>doi:10.1073/pnas.1304318110<br><b>Contact:</b> Fahri Saatcioglu, University<br>of Oslo, Oslo, Norway<br>e-mail:<br>fahris@ibv.uio.no |

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