This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Solid tumors	VEGF; VEGF receptor 1 (FLT1; VEGFR-1); VEGFR-2 (KDR/Flk-1)	A mouse study suggests prolonged anti-VEGF therapy to treat cancer could compromise endocrine function of the thyroid gland. In healthy mice, antibodies against VEGF and VEGFR-2 decreased vasculature density in the thyroid and other endocrine tissues compared with an antibody against VEGFR-1 or vehicle. Prolonged anti-VEGF treatment also decreased circulating levels of the thyroid hormone thyroxine compared with vehicle. Next steps include determining the functional impact of prolonged anti-VEGF therapy on endocrine tissues in mouse models and assessing endocrine levels in patients receiving anti-VEGF therapies. *SciBX* 6(30); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.792 Published online Aug. 8, 2013	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Yang, Y. *et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*; published online July 1, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1301331110 **Contact:** Yihai Cao, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden e-mail: yihai.cao@ki.se