

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)	Spleen tyrosine kinase (SYK)	<p>Primary tumor studies suggest measuring levels of two SYK isoforms could help predict treatment outcomes in patients with HCC. In 152 primary HCC tumors, levels of full-length SYK were lower and levels of a short SYK isoform were higher than those in surrounding normal tissue or liver tissue from healthy subjects. In patients with HCC tumors, overall survival and time to recurrence after surgical resection correlated positively with tumor levels of full-length SYK and correlated negatively with tumor levels of the short SYK isoform. Planned studies include validating both SYK isoforms as prognostic markers in a larger cohort of patients with HCC.</p> <p>SciBX 7(7); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.197 Published online Feb. 20, 2014</p>	Patent status undisclosed; unlicensed	<p>Hong, J. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online Jan. 29, 2014; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-13-2104 Contact: Raymond T. Chung, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass. e-mail: rtchung@partners.org</p>