This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	NDC80 homolog kinetochore complex component (NDC80); NIMA-related kinase 2 (NEK2)	SAR studies suggest compounds that block the interaction between NDC80 and NEK2 could help treat cancer. *In vitro*, a series of 4-aryl-*N*-arylcarbonyl-2-aminothiazoles selectively blocked the NEK2 binding site on NDC80. In a panel of tumor cell lines, compounds from the series inhibited proliferation with nanomolar IC_{50} values. In a mouse xenograft model of breast cancer, the lead compound decreased tumor growth compared with vehicle. Next steps include preclinical development of related compounds for cancer indications. Taivex Therapeutics Corp. has licensed the compounds and has a NEK2-targeted molecule in preclinical development for cancer. *SciBX* 7(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.638 Published online June 5, 2014	Patented; licensed to Taivex Therapeutics	Lee, Y.-S.E. *et al. J. Med. Chem.*; published online April 28, 2014; doi:10.1021/jm401990s **Contact:** Jiann-Jyh Huang, National Chiayi University, Chiayi City, Taiwan e-mail: lukehuang@mail.ncyu.edu.tw