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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	Androgen receptor (AR)	Cell culture studies have identified AR-inhibiting 4-(4-phenylthiazol-2-yl)morpholine analogs that could be useful for treating drug-resistant prostate cancer. *In vitro*, members of the series were shown to target the AR DNA-binding domain. In an AR^+ human prostate cancer cell line, the lead analog from the series inhibited AR-mediated transcriptional activity with potency comparable to that of the small molecule AR antagonist Xtandi enzalutamide. In a human prostate cancer cell line that expresses truncated AR splice variants that confer resistance to AR antagonists including Xtandi, the lead analog inhibited AR-mediated transcriptional activity with higher potency than Xtandi. Next steps could include carrying out IND-enabling pharmacokinetic, pharmacodynamic and safety studies on the lead analogs. Medivation Inc. and Astellas Pharma Inc. market Xtandi to treat prostate cancer. *SciBX* 7(33); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.984 Published online Aug. 28, 2014	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Li, H. *et al. J. Med. Chem.*; published online July 25, 2014; doi:10.1021/jm500802j **Contact:** Artem Cherkasov, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada e-mail: artc@interchange.ubc.ca