This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Osteomyelitis	Unknown	<p>Studies in rats identified a series of bisphosphonated antibacterial prodrugs that could be useful for treating osteomyelitis, a bone-localized bacterial infection caused by <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>. In a rat model of osteomyelitis, bisphosphonated antibiotics targeted bone and released antibiotic near the infection, which lowered infectious titers compared with those from untreated rats. Next steps include evaluating the prodrugs in additional animal models of bone disease.</p> <p>TT99000647, a rifabutin-bisphosphonate prodrug from Targanta Therapeutics Corp., is in preclinical testing to treat osteomyelitis.</p> <p>SciBX 1(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.929 Published online Oct. 23, 2008</p>	<p>Patent application filed for bisphosphonated prodrugs; available for licensing</p> <p>Contact: Thomas Parr, Targanta Therapeutics Corp., St. Laurent, Quebec, Canada e-mail: tparr@targanta.com</p>	<p>Houghton, T.J. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Oct. 4, 2008; doi:10.1021/jm801007z</p> <p>Contact: Adel Rafai Far, Targanta Therapeutics Corp., St. Laurent, Quebec, Canada e-mail: afar@targanta.com</p>