This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Viral infection	PR domain containing 1 with ZNF domain (PRDM1; BLIMP1)	<p>Studies in murine T cells and mice suggest that inhibiting BLIMP1 could prevent T cell exhaustion and potentially help treat chronic viral infection. In antigen-specific CD8⁺ T cells from mice with a chronic viral infection, upregulation of Blimp1 correlated with increased T cell exhaustion compared with that in uninfected or acutely infected mice. In chronically infected mice, homozygous or heterozygous Blimp1 knockout partially restored T cell function and population. Ongoing studies include deleting Blimp1 in murine T cells at various stages of differentiation to identify therapeutic intervention points.</p> <p>SciBX 2(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1219 Published online Aug. 13, 2009</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Shin, H. <i>et al. Immunity</i>; published online Aug. 6, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.immuni.2009.06.019</p> <p>Contact: E. John Wherry, The Wistar Institute, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: jwherry@wistar.org</p>