This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Tuberculosis (TB)	Glycerol monomycolate (GroMM)	<i>In vitro</i> and <i>ex vivo</i> studies suggest that a molecular scaffold derived from mycobacterial lipid antigens could be useful in TB vaccines. In <i>ex vivo</i> patient peripheral blood mononuclear cells stimulated with GroMM, individuals vaccinated with bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) and individuals with latent tuberculosis infection showed increased antigen-specific T cell reactivity compared with that seen in unvaccinated subjects or untreated TB patients. Next steps include evaluating the protective value of GroMM in subunit TB vaccine formulations. There are at least four TB vaccines in development stages ranging from preclinical to Phase II.	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Layre, E. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online Jan. 29, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2008.11.008 Contact: Martine Gilleron, Institute of Pharmacology and Structural Biology, Toulouse, France e-mail: Martine.Gilleron@ipbs.fr
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