This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Influenza virus	Influenza antigen hemagglutinin A (HA)	<p>Structural studies suggest that an antibody targeting a conserved influenza HA epitope could prevent or treat seasonal or pandemic influenza infections. Cocrystals of CR6261, a human-derived HA antibody, revealed that the antibody bound an epitope on the HA stem region that is conserved across all group 1 subtypes of HA. Crucell N.V. is developing a combination of an antibody against the conserved group 1 HA epitope and an antibody against a conserved group 2 HA epitope to treat or prevent seasonal influenza.</p> <p>There are 15 companies with therapies that are marketed or approved to treat or prevent influenza infection.</p> <p>At least nine companies have compounds in Phase III testing to treat or prevent influenza.</p> <p>SciBX 2(9); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.363 Published online March 5, 2009</p>	Patented by Crucell; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Ekiert, D. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Feb. 26, 2009; doi:10.1126/science.1171491</p> <p>Contact: Ian A. Wilson, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: wilson@scripps.edu</p>