This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Malaria	<i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> histone deacetylase 1 (PFI1260c; HDAC1)	<p>An <i>in vitro</i> study identified <i>P. falciparum</i>-specific HDAC1 inhibitors that may be useful for treating malaria. <i>In vitro</i>, four of the compounds inhibited <i>P. falciparum</i> HDAC1 and parasite proliferation with nanomolar IC₅₀ values. Next steps include optimizing the compounds and evaluating their efficacy in murine models of malaria infection.</p> <p>Zolinza vorinostat, an HDAC inhibitor from Merck & Co. Inc., is marketed to treat cutaneous T cell lymphoma (CTCL).</p> <p>Belinostat, a small molecule HDAC inhibitor from TopoTarget A/S, is in Phase III testing to treat T cell lymphoma.</p> <p>At least 18 other companies have HDAC inhibitors in Phase II or earlier development.</p> <p>SciBX 2(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.629 Published online April 16, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Patel, V. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online March 24, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm801654y</p> <p>Contact: Jon Clardy, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: jon_clardy@hms.harvard.edu</p>