This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Trypanosome	<i>Trypanosoma cruzi</i> cytochrome P450 C-14 α demethylase (CYP51)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that dialkylimidazole analogs could help treat acute Chagas disease. Two lead compounds showed low nanomolar or subnanomolar activity against CYP51 and half-lives of 3–5 hours in murine blood plasma following oral administration. In mouse models of acute Chagas disease, animals treated for three weeks with either lead compound had lower blood levels of the parasite than untreated mice, which died 16 days postinfection. Two-thirds of mice treated with one of the compounds had undetectable parasite levels 100 days postinfection. Ongoing work is testing the efficacy of the lead compounds in a model of chronic Chagas disease. SciBX 2(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.980 Published online June 18, 2009	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Suryadevara, P. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online May 22, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900030h Contact: Michael H. Gelb, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: gelb@chem.washington.edu Contact: Frederick Buckner, same affiliation as above e-mail: fbuckner@u.washington.edu Contact: Andrew D. Hamilton, Yale University, New Haven, Conn. e-mail: Andrew.Hamilton@yale.edu