This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Pneumonia	Cardiolipin; ATPase, aminophospholipid transporter class 1 type 8B member 1 (ATP8B1; FIC1)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that decreasing cardiolipin expression in the lung could help treat bacterial pneumonia. In pneumonia patients, cardiolipin levels are higher than those in healthy controls. In pneumonia-infected mice, a soluble peptide containing the cardiolipin-binding portion of Atp8b1 lowered lung cardiolipin levels and bacteria-induced lung injury and improved survival compared with vehicle control. Next steps include generating optimized analogs of the cardiolipin-binding peptide.</p> <p>SciBX 3(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1153 Published online Sept. 30, 2010</p>	Unpatented; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Ray, N.B. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Sept. 9, 2010; doi:10.1038/nm.2213</p> <p>Contact: Rama K. Mallampalli, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa. e-mail: mallampallirk@upmc.edu</p>