This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Tuberculosis (TB)	Not applicable	<p><i>In vivo</i> studies identified a recombinant fusion protein vaccine that could be used to boost long-term protection against TB. The fusion protein was made up of four different <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> antigens. In guinea pigs vaccinated with bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG), boosting the fusion protein vaccine with adjuvant led to greater protection from <i>M. tuberculosis</i> challenge than boosting with saline ($p < 0.001$). In cynomolgus monkeys, the new vaccine plus adjuvant was well tolerated and induced an antigen-specific immune response. Next steps include further preclinical efficacy testing before clinical trials. At least nine companies have TB vaccines in clinical and preclinical testing.</p> <p>SciBX 3(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1237 Published online Oct. 21, 2010</p>	The Infectious Disease Research Institute owns IP covering vaccines; institute will seek commercialization partner	<p>Bertholet, S. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Oct. 15, 2010; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3001094</p> <p>Contact: Rhea N. Coler, Infectious Disease Research Institute, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: rcoler@idri.org</p>