This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Herpes simplex virus (HSV)	Myosin heavy chain 9 (MYH9); myosin light chain kinase (MYLK; MLCK)	Cell culture and mouse studies suggest that inhibiting MYH9 or MYLK could help treat HSV infection. In HSV-1-infected cells, anti-MYH9 antibody-containing serum or MYH9-targeting small hairpin RNA decreased levels of infection compared with control serum or a control shRNA. In cell culture and a mouse model of HSV-1 stromal keratitis, an inhibitor of MYLK, which regulates MYH9, decreased infection compared with no treatment. Next steps include developing a mAb against MYH9.	Patent pending; licensing status undisclosed	Arii, J. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online Oct. 14, 2010; doi:10.1038/nature09420 Contact: Yasushi Kawaguchi, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: ykawagu@ims.u-tokyo.ac.jp
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