This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Influenza virus	Platelet activating factor receptor (PTAFR; PAFR)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting PAFR could help prevent lung injury and death from influenza A virus infection. In mice infected with H1N1 influenza, <i>Pafr</i> knockout decreased pulmonary injury and mortality compared with those in infected wild-type controls. In H1N1-infected wild-type mice, a PAFR antagonist reduced pulmonary injury and mortality compared with vehicle. Next steps include replicating the results in a ferret model of influenza infection.</p> <p>SciBX 3(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1386 Published online Dec. 2, 2010</p>	Patent application filed covering use of PAFR antagonists for treatment of influenza infection; available for licensing	<p>Garcia, C.C. <i>et al. PLoS Pathog.</i>; published online Nov. 4, 2010; doi:10.1371/journal.ppat.1001171</p> <p>Contact: Mauro M. Teixeira, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Minas Gerais, Brazil e-mail: mmtex@icb.ufmg.br</p>