This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Clostridium	<i>Clostridium difficile</i> toxin B (TcdB)	<p>A study in cell culture identified inhibitors of the virulence factor TcdB that could help treat <i>C. difficile</i> infection. In human fibroblasts, the two most potent compounds inhibited TcdB-induced toxicity with micromolar IC₅₀ values. Next steps include optimizing and evaluating the inhibitors in an animal model of <i>C. difficile</i> infection.</p> <p>SciBX 3(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1446 Published online Dec. 16, 2010</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing from the Stanford University Office of Technology Licensing	<p>Puri, A.W. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i>; published online Nov. 24, 2010; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2010.09.011</p> <p>Contact: Aimee Shen, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: ashen2@stanford.edu</p> <p>Contact: Matthew Boggy, same affiliation as above e-mail: mboggy@stanford.edu</p>