This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Tuberculosis (TB)	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> glucanase GLGE (glgE)	A study in cultured bacteria and in mice suggests that inhibiting glgE could help treat TB. In cultured as compared with wild-type <i>M. tuberculosis</i> , inactivation of <i>glgE</i> led to accumulation of the toxic metabolite maltose 1-phosphate and bacterial death. In a mouse model of <i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection, bacteria with inactive <i>glgE</i> had poor survival in the lungs and spleen compared with wild-type bacteria. Next steps include screening for small molecule inhibitors of glgE.	Patent pending; available for licensing	Kalscheuer, R. <i>et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online March 21, 2010; doi:10.1038/nchembio.340 Contact: William Jacobs Jr., Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, Bronx, N.Y. e-mail: jacobsw@hhmi.org
SciBX 3(14); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.437 Published online April 8, 2010				