This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Tuberculosis (TB)	Unknown	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest biphenyl analogs of nitroimidazopyran PA-824 could be useful for treating TB. In TB-infected mice, the three most potent analogs had over 200-fold greater potency than the PA-824 parent compound. In <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> growth assays, the three analogs had nanomolar-level growth inhibition against replicating bacteria and nanomolar to low, single-digit micromolar growth inhibition against nonreplicating bacteria. Next steps could include optimizing the PA-824 analogs for increased efficacy against <i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection.</p> <p>Novartis AG and Global Alliance for TB Drug Development are running a Phase II trial of PA-824 to treat TB.</p> <p>SciBX 3(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.58 Published online Jan. 14, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Palmer, B.D. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Nov. 24, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm901207n</p> <p>Contact: William A. Denny, The University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand e-mail: b.denny@auckland.ac.nz</p>