This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Viral infection	<i>Vaccinia virus</i> temporal expression: early/late (N1L; VACWR028)	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest that polyphenol inhibitors of N1L could help treat <i>Vaccinia</i> viral infection and other DNA viral infections. Computational modeling, chemical synthesis and <i>in vitro</i> testing identified a series of polyphenols with low to submicromolar inhibitory activity against N1L. In <i>Vaccinia</i> -infected human and nonhuman primate cell lines, five of the compounds inhibited viral growth at low micromolar concentrations with no signs of cytotoxicity compared with no treatment. Next steps include lead optimization of the N1L inhibitors. SciBX 3(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.624 Published online May 20, 2010	Unpatented; licensing status undisclosed	Cheltsov, A. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online May 4, 2010; doi:10.1021/jm901446n Contact: Ruben Abagyan, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: ruben@ucsd.edu Contact: Robert C. Liddington, Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: rliddington@burnham.org