This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Tuberculosis (TB)	Not applicable	<p>A study in mice suggests that lowering levels of <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>-specific T_{reg} cells could help treat TB. In a mouse model of TB infection, transplantation of <i>M. tuberculosis</i>-specific T_{reg} cells led to increased bacterial burdens in the lung compared with those in lungs of untreated controls. Next steps include determining whether exposure to environmental <i>Mycobacteria</i>, which share many antigens with <i>M. tuberculosis</i>, or immunization with TB vaccine bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) is responsible for inducing antigen-specific T_{reg} cells that cross-react with <i>M. tuberculosis</i> and lower host immunity to the pathogen.</p> <p>SciBX 3(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.773 Published online June 24, 2010</p>	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Shafiani, S. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online June 15, 2010; doi:10.1084/jem.20091885 Contact: Kevin B. Urdahl, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: kurdah@u.washington.edu Contact: Kiyoshi Takatsu, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: takatsuk@med.u-toyama.ac.jp</p>