This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	CD14; lymphocyte antigen 96 (LY96; MD2)	<i>In vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> studies suggest that palmitoyl-oleoyl-phosphatidylglycerol (POPG) could help prevent or treat RSV infection. In epithelial cell lines, POPG prevented cell death caused by RSV infection, blocked viral spread to neighboring cells and inhibited the binding of RSV to cell surfaces compared with mock or control phospholipid. In mice infected with RSV, intranasal delivery of POPG led to lower viral infection and lung pathology compared with no treatment. Next steps include testing POPG in primates.	Patent application filed for use of compound with multiple types of respiratory infection, acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and acute lung injury (ALI); available for licensing through National Jewish Health's Intellectual Property Office Contact: Emmanuel Hilaire, National Jewish Health, Denver, Colo. phone: 303-398-1262	Numata, M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Dec. 22, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0909361107 Contact: Dennis Voelker, National Jewish Health, Denver, Colo. e-mail: voelkerd@njhealth.org
		SciBX 3(3); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.90 Published online Jan. 21, 2010		