This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Tuberculosis (TB)	Not applicable	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified a pyrimidine analog that could help treat TB. In an assay for activity against <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>, several compounds with 5-arylalkynyl groups had antibacterial activity comparable to that of the generic TB compounds D-cycloserine, rifampicin and isoniazid. In mice infected with <i>M. tuberculosis</i>, 50 mg/kg daily delivery of one of the compounds for five weeks was more effective at clearing the infection than delivery of D-cycloserine. Next steps include ongoing pharmacokinetic, bioavailability and combination therapy studies with the identified compounds.</p> <p>SciBX 3(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.958 Published online Aug. 12, 2010</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Srivastav, N.C. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online July 22, 2010; doi:10.1021/jm100568q Contact: Rakesh Kumar, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada e-mail: rakesh.kumar@ualberta.ca</p>