This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Tuberculosis (TB)	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> Rv2660c hypothetical protein (Rv2660c); <i>M. tuberculosis</i> secreted antigen 85-B (fbpB; Ag85B); <i>M. tuberculosis</i> 6 kDa early secretory antigenic target (esxA; Esat6)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that a vaccine that includes the latency-associated Rv2660c protein could prevent TB. The vaccine (H56) is based on an Rv2660c-Ag85B-Esat6 fusion protein. In normal mice, H56 plus adjuvant provided greater protection from infection after bacterial challenge than a bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) or an Ag85B-Esat6 fusion protein vaccine. In mouse models of latent TB, H56 plus adjuvant provided greater protection against reactivation of infection than adjuvant alone. Ongoing work includes testing H56 in macaque models of TB.</p> <p>SciBX 4(5); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.133 Published online Feb. 3, 2011</p>	Patented by the State Serum Institute; available for licensing or partnering	<p>Aagaard, C. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Jan. 23, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2285</p> <p>Contact: Claus Aagaard, State Serum Institute, Copenhagen, Denmark e-mail: caa@ssi.dk</p>