This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Infectious disease	Bacterial cystathionine β -synthase; bacterial cystathionine γ -lyase	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest inhibiting hydrogen sulfide (H_2S) production could help treat bacterial infections. <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , <i>Bacillus anthracis</i> and <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> strains with genetic or chemical inactivation of the H_2S -producing enzymes cystathionine β -synthase or cystathionine γ -lyase had greater sensitivity to gentamicin than strains expressing functional versions of either enzyme. Next steps include high throughput screening for small molecule inhibitors of bacterial H_2S -producing enzymes.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Shatalin, K. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online Nov. 18, 2011; doi:10.1126/science.1209855 Contact: Evgeny Nudler, New York University School of Medicine, New York, N.Y. e-mail: evgeny.nudler@nyumc.org
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