This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Staphylococcus	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ribonuclease P (RnpA)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified a small molecule inhibitor of RnpA that could help treat <i>S. aureus</i> infection. High throughput screening identified lead compound RNPA1000, which inhibited RnpA-mediated RNA degradation with an IC ₅₀ value of 100–125 µm. <i>In vitro</i> , RNPA1000 inhibited <i>S. aureus</i> growth compared with vehicle control. In a mouse model of systemic <i>S. aureus</i> infection, RNPA1000 increased survival compared with vehicle control. Next steps include developing RNPA1000 analogs with increased potency.	Patent applications filed; available for licensing Contact: Steven J. Schreiner, UNeMed Corp., Omaha, Neb. e-mail: sjschreiner@unmc.edu	Olson, P.D. <i>et al. PLoS Pathog.</i> ; published online Feb. 10, 2011; doi:10.1371/journal.ppat.1001287 Contact: Paul M. Dunman, The University of Rochester Medical Center School of Medicine and Dentistry, Rochester, N.Y. e-mail: Paul_Dunman@urmc.rochester.edu
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