This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Tuberculosis (TB)	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> EspC (EspC; Rv3615c)	A study in patient samples suggests that <i>M. tuberculosis</i> EspC helps prevent TB and potentially could be used as a vaccine component. In 45 TB patients, enzyme-linked immunospot (ELISpot) assays detected T cells that recognized EspC in 76% of patients. In 27 patients with risk factors for latent TB infection, ELISpot assays detected T cells that recognized EspC in 48% of patients. Next steps could include testing the use of EspC as a component in TB vaccines.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Millington, K.A. <i>et al.</i> <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online March 22, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1015153108 Contact: Ajit Lalvani, Imperial College London, London, U.K. e-mail: a.lalvani@imperial.ac.uk
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