This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Malaria	Phosphodiesterase-5 (PDE-5)	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified Cialis tadalafil analogs that could help treat malaria. A whole-parasite screening assay identified analogs of the PDE-5 inhibitor that lowered <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> growth more than the parent molecule. Next steps could include testing the inhibitors in animals. Eli Lilly and Co. markets Cialis to treat erectile dysfunction (ED). At least seven other companies have PDE-5 inhibitors in stages ranging from preclinical to marketed for conditions including ED, hypertension and pulmonary fibrosis.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Beghyn, T.B. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online April 19, 2011; doi:10.1021/jm1014617 Contact: Benoit Deprez, University of Lille-Nord de France, Lille, France e-mail: benoit.deprez@univ-lille2.fr
SciBX 4(19); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.543 Published online May 12, 2011				