This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Tuberculosis (TB)	Matrix metalloproteinase 1 (MMP1)	<p>A study in patient tissue and in mice suggests inhibiting MMP1 may be useful as an adjunct therapy to decrease TB-associated lung tissue damage. In sputum and bronchoalveolar lavage fluid samples, TB patients had a 15.6-fold greater concentration of MMP1 than respiratory symptomatic control patients. High MMP1 concentrations in TB patients correlated with increased disease severity. In a mouse model of <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> infection, macrophages expressing human MMP1 increased lung tissue damage compared with macrophages not expressing MMP1. Next steps include studying the effects of MMP1 inhibitors in preclinical models of TB.</p> <p>SciBX 4(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.600 Published online May 26, 2011</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Elkington, P. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online April 25, 2011; doi:10.1172/JCI45666</p> <p>Contact: Paul Elkington, Imperial College London, London, U.K. e-mail: p.elkington@imperial.ac.uk</p>