This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Renal disease				
Polycystic kidney disease (PKD)	Cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR)	<i>In vitro</i> and <i>ex vivo</i> studies suggest a class of CFTR inhibitors could help treat PKD. Synthesis and <i>in vitro</i> testing of benzopyrimido-pyrrolo-oxazine-dione analogs identified a lead compound that inhibited CFTR at low nanomolar IC ₅₀ values. In an <i>ex vivo</i> mouse kidney culture model of PKD, the compound inhibited cyst growth compared with no treatment. Future studies could include testing the lead compound in animal models of PKD.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Snyder, D.S. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online June 27, 2011; doi:10.1021/jm200505e Contact: A.S. Verkman, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: alan.verkman@ucsf.edu
<i>SciBX</i> 4(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.834 Published online July 28, 2011				