This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Malaria	Not applicable	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified a series of 1,4-naphthoquinones that could help treat malaria. <i>In vitro</i> , the naphthoquinones had better potency against multidrug-resistant <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> than chloroquine. The new series of compounds induce a cascade that disrupts the redox balance in red blood cells that is necessary for parasite survival. In mice infected with <i>P. berghei</i> , several of the naphthoquinones decreased parasitemia compared with no treatment. Next steps include obtaining funding for additional mouse studies.	Patent applications filed; available for licensing	Müller, T. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> ; published online June 17, 2011; doi:10.1021/ja201729z Contact: Elisabeth Davioud-Charvet, University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France e-mail: elisabeth.davioud@unistra.fr
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