This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Malaria	<i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> chloroquine resistance transporter (PfCRT)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified compounds that could be repurposed or optimized to treat malaria. In a screen of over 2,800 drugs against 61 <i>P. falciparum</i> strains, 6 drugs approved to treat nonmalarial indications were identified as low nanomolar inhibitors of parasite growth. In combination with genomewide association studies, six additional hits were identified that inhibited growth of chloroquine-resistant strains harboring <i>PfCRT</i> SNPs. Ongoing work includes testing the six approved drugs in mouse models of malarial infection.	Unpatented; unlicensed	Yuan, J. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online Aug. 5, 2011; doi:10.1126/science.1205216 Contact: Christopher P. Austin, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: austinc@mail.nih.gov Contact: Xin-zhuan Su, same affiliation as above e-mail: xsu@niaid.nih.gov
SciBX 4(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.885 Published online Aug. 11, 2011				