This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	Nucleolin	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest nucleolin inhibitors could help prevent RSV infection. A virus binding assay and mass spectrometry identified nucleolin as a receptor for RSV. In mice, pretreatment with nucleolin-targeting small interfering RNA before RSV challenge decreased RSV levels in the lung compared with vehicle pretreatment. Next steps include identifying compounds that target nucleolin. Archemix Corp.'s antinucleolin aptamer, As1411 (AGRO100), is in Phase II trials to treat acute myelogenous leukemia (AML) and renal cancer. ImmuPharma plc has IPP-204106, a nucleolin antagonist, in Phase I/II testing to treat cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 4(33); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.936 Published online Aug. 25, 2011</p>	<p>Patent application filed; available for partnerships and licensing from the University of Toronto Contact: Peter Azmi, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: peter.azmi@utoronto.ca</p>	<p>Tayyari, F. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Aug. 14, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2444 Contact: Richard G. Hegele, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: richard.hegele@utoronto.ca</p>