This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
<i>Clostridium</i>	Dynamin (DMN)	<p>Mouse and cell culture studies suggest the DMN inhibitor dyngo-4a could help prevent botulism. In cultured mouse hippocampal neurons, dyngo-4a pretreatment inhibited internalization of <i>Clostridium botulinum</i> serotype A neurotoxins. In mice, dyngo-4a pretreatment delayed onset of botulism by more than 30% compared with vehicle pretreatment. Ongoing work includes designing other DMN inhibitors and testing them on all the <i>C. botulinum</i> neurotoxin serotypes.</p> <p>SciBX 4(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.988 Published online Sept. 8, 2011</p>	<p>Patent application filed covering DMN inhibitors; dyngo-4a is exclusively licensed by Ascent Scientific Ltd. as a research tool; other DMN modulators available for licensing from Bio-Link Australia Pty. Ltd.</p> <p>Contact: Christian Toouli, Bio-Link Australia Pty. Ltd., Sydney, New South Wales, Australia e-mail: c.toouli@bio-link.com</p>	<p>Harper, C.B. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i>; published online Aug. 5, 2011; doi:10.1074/jbc.M111.283879</p> <p>Contact: Frederic A. Meunier, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia e-mail: f.meunier@uq.edu.au</p>