This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Influenza	Mucin 5AC oligomeric mucus/gel-forming (MUC5AC)	<p>Mouse studies suggest increasing MUC5AC levels in the lungs could help protect against influenza infection. In transgenic mice overexpressing Muc5ac, compared with wild-type mice, infection with a mouse-adapted influenza virus decreased lung viral loads. Next steps include determining signal pathways that induce mucin secretion in the lungs and selecting compounds that regulate mucin gene transcription.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 5(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1032 Published online Oct. 4, 2012</p>	Model unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Ehre, C. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Sept. 24, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1206552109 Contact: Camille Ehre, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C. e-mail: cehre@med.unc.edu</p>