This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Influenza virus	Neuraminidase (NEU1; SIAL1)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified oseltamivir phosphonate derivatives that could help treat drug-resistant influenza. <i>In vitro</i>, the oseltamivir phosphonate tamiphosphor and three of its derivatives inhibited neuraminidases from influenza strains including an oseltamivir-resistant strain. In influenza-infected mice, oral treatment with the compounds increased survival and decreased weight loss compared with treatment using water. Next steps include designing a formula with improved bioavailability.</p> <p>Gilead Sciences Inc. and Roche market Tamiflu oseltamivir to treat and prevent influenza. GlaxoSmithKline plc markets Relenza zanamivir to treat and prevent influenza.</p> <p>SciBX 5(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1115 Published online Oct. 25, 2012</p>	Findings patented; licensed to an undisclosed biotech company	<p>Fang, T.-J.R. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Sept. 25, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm3008486</p> <p>Contact: Chi-Huey Wong, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan e-mail: chwong@gate.sinica.edu.tw</p> <p>Contact: Jim-Min Fang, same affiliation as above e-mail: jmfang@ntu.edu.tw</p> <p>Contact: Oliver Yoa-Pu Hu, National Defense Medical Center, Taipei, Taiwan e-mail: hyp@ndmctsgh.edu.tw</p>