This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HIV/AIDS	HIV gp120; CC chemokine receptor 5 (CCR5; CD195); CXC chemokine receptor 4 (CXCR4; NPY3R)	<i>In vitro</i> and cell assay studies identified a dual CD4-heparin sulfate peptide (mCD4-P3YSO ₃) that could help treat HIV. <i>In vitro</i> , mCD4-P3YSO ₃ blocked HIV gp120 from binding to host CCR5 and CXCR4. In cellular assays, mCD4-P3YSO ₃ inhibited viral replication of two HIV-1 reference strains at low nM doses. Next steps include testing mCD4-P3YSO ₃ and other mCD4-linked heparin sulfate mimetic peptides in animal models. SciBX 5(7); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.181 Published online Feb. 16, 2012	Patented; available for licensing	Connell, B.J. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online Jan. 27, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2011.12.009 Contact: Hugues Lortat-Jacob, University Joseph Fourier, Grenoble, France e-mail: hugues.lortat-jacob@ibs.fr