This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Leishmaniasis	Not applicable	<p>Cell culture and mouse studies suggest the nitroimidazole compound fexinidazole could help treat leishmaniasis. In a mouse model of <i>Leishmania donovani</i> infection, fexinidazole inhibited parasite growth and increased survival compared with vehicle. Next steps include testing the compound in preclinical models of chronic infection with geographically diverse and drug-resistant <i>Leishmania</i> isolates.</p> <p>Sanofi and the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative have fexinidazole in Phase I testing for African trypanosomiasis.</p> <p>SciBX 5(9); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.228 Published online March 1, 2012</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Wyllie, S. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Feb. 1, 2012; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3003326</p> <p>Contact: Alan H. Fairlamb, University of Dundee, Dundee, U.K. e-mail: a.h.fairlamb@dundee.ac.uk</p>