This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hematology				
Thalassemia	Hepcidin antimicrobial peptide (HAMP); transmembrane protease serine 6 (TMPRSS6; matriptase-2)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting TMPRSS6 could help treat β-thalassemia. In a mouse model of β-thalassemia, <i>Tmprss6</i> knockout increased mRNA levels of the iron metabolism and storage regulator <i>Hamp</i> and decreased anemia compared with wild-type <i>Tmprss6</i> expression. Next steps could include screening for compounds that inhibit TMPRSS6.</p> <p>Alnylam Pharmaceuticals Inc.'s ALN-TMP, an RNAi targeting TMPRSS6, is in preclinical development to treat hemoglobinopathies, including β-thalassemia and sickle cell anemia.</p> <p>SciBX 5(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.470 Published online May 3, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Nai, A. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online April 6, 2012; doi:10.1182/blood-2012-01-401885</p> <p>Contact: Clara Camaschella, Vita-Salute San Raffaele University, Milan, Italy e-mail: camaschella.clara@hsr.it</p>