This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Malaria	<i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> calcium-dependent protein kinase 4 (PfCDPK4; PF07_0072)	Studies in cell culture, mosquitoes and mice suggest antagonizing PfCDPK4 could be useful for preventing transmission of malaria to mosquitoes. In a mouse model of malaria, a small molecule inhibitor of PfCDPK4 decreased <i>P. falciparum</i> gamete formation and infection of mosquitoes compared with vehicle. Next steps include toxicological testing of the lead compound in large animal models of malaria. <i>SciBX</i> 5(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.605 Published online June 7, 2012	Patent pending; available for licensing	Ojo, K.K. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online May 8, 2012; doi:10.1172/JCI61822 Contact: Kayode K. Ojo, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: ojo67kk@u.washington.edu Contact: Wesley C. Van Voorhis, same affiliation as above e-mail: wvanvoorhis@medicine.washington.edu