This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HIV/AIDS	Platelet factor 4 (PF4; CXCL4)	<p>Cell culture studies suggest CXCL4 could help prevent HIV replication. In a cell culture assay of HIV replication, CXCL4 decreased attachment and entry of the virus to host cells and lowered the rate of viral replication compared with vehicle controls. <i>In vitro</i>, CXCL4 bound to the envelope glycoprotein HIV gp120. Next steps include structural studies of the CXCL4-gp120 interaction to aid the rational design of molecules that mimic CXCL4 binding to HIV and prevent or treat HIV infection.</p> <p>SciBX 5(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.657 Published online June 21, 2012</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing	<p>Auerbach, D.J. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online May 29, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1207314109</p> <p>Contact: Paolo Lusso, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: plusso@niaid.nih.gov</p> <p>Contact: Anthony S. Fauci, same affiliation as above e-mail: afauci@niaid.nih.gov</p>