This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HIV/AIDS	CD4	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies suggest addition of an <i>N</i>-linked glycan to the anti-CD4 mAb ibalizumab could help improve its ability to neutralize HIV-1 strains that are resistant to the antibody. Ibalizumab variants engineered with <i>N</i>-linked glycans on their light chains were synthesized. In a panel of 118 HIV-1 strains, 1 of the engineered variants neutralized all strains, including those resistant to unmodified ibalizumab. Next steps could include IND-enabling studies for the <i>N</i>-linked glycan-modified ibalizumab. In 2007, TaiMed Biologics Inc. licensed ibalizumab from Roche's Genentech Inc. unit. The compound has completed Phase II testing to treat HIV infection, and the company has a second-generation ibalizumab variant developed in collaboration with The Rockefeller University in preclinical development.</p> <p>SciBX 6(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1191 Published online Oct. 31, 2013</p>	Patent application filed; licensed to TaiMed Biologics	<p>Song, R. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i>; published online Oct. 6, 2013; doi:10.1038/nbt.2677</p> <p>Contact: David D. Ho, The Rockefeller University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: dho@adarc.org</p>