This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HIV/AIDS	HIV gp120; HIV gp140; tenascin C (TNC; TN)	Cell-based studies suggest the human breast milk-derived protein TNC could help prevent HIV-1 infection. In HIV-1 infected human cell lines, TNC showed dose-dependent, broad-spectrum neutralizing activity against the virus. In cell-based assays, TNC blocked the interaction between HIV-1 and epithelial cells by binding to HIV gp120 and HIV gp140. Next steps include defining the minimum region of TNC required for the HIV-neutralizing activity and conducting studies to determine whether the protein can prevent mucosal HIV transmission in animal models.	Patent pending covering prophylactic use of TNC; available for licensing from the Duke University Office of Licensing and Ventures Contact: Bilyana Georgieva, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C. e-mail: bilyana.georgieva@duke.edu	Fouda, G.G. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Oct. 21, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1307336110 Contact: Sallie R. Permar, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C. e-mail: sallie.permar@duke.edu
SciBX 6(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1261 Published online Nov. 14, 2013				