This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Malaria	<i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> phosphoethanolamine N-methyltransferase (PfPMT)	Cell culture studies suggest inhibiting PfPMT could help prevent <i>P. falciparum</i> infection and transmission. In <i>P. falciparum</i> cultures, knockout of PfPMT prevented the generation of mature gametocytes, a critical step in malaria transmission. In red blood cell-cultured <i>P. falciparum</i> , a PfPMT inhibitor increased death compared with no treatment and limited growth of gametocytes depending on their developmental stage. Next steps include synthesizing analogs of the inhibitor and testing them in mouse models of malaria.	Unpatented; available for licensing from the Yale School of Medicine Office of Cooperative Research	Bobenchik, A.M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Oct. 21, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1313965110 Contact: Choukri Ben Mamoun, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Conn. e-mail: choukri.benmamoun@yale.edu
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