This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
<i>Staphylococcus</i>	ClpP	<p>Cell culture and mouse studies suggest combining the antibiotic acyldepsipeptide 4 (ADEP4) with rifampicin could help eradicate biofilms. In stationary methicillin-resistant <i>S. aureus</i> (MRSA), ADEP4 activated the clpP protease and led to extensive protein degradation. In culture and a mouse model of chronic infection, ADEP4 plus rifampicin eradicated MRSA biofilms, whereas rifampicin alone did not. Next steps include additional tests on ADEP4 plus other antibiotics for toxicity and efficacy. Rifampicin is a generic antibiotic.</p> <p>SciBX 6(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1357 Published online Dec. 12, 2013</p>	<p>Patents filed covering sterilizing use of ADEP4 and related compounds in combination with other antibiotics and covering ADEP4 analogs; licensed to Arietis Corp.; available for partnering</p>	<p>Conlon, B.P. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Nov. 13, 2013; doi:10.1038/nature12790 Contact: Kim Lewis, Northeastern University, Boston, Mass. e-mail: k.lewis@neu.edu</p>