This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Influenza virus	Influenza A virus hemagglutinin (HA)	<p>Mouse studies suggest a liposome formulation of a sialic acid-based sugar could help prevent or treat influenza infection. The sugar sialylneolacto-<i>N</i>-tetraose c blocks the interaction of HA with host cells. In mice infected with influenza A virus, liposome-mediated delivery of the sugar during viral challenge led to greater survival than delivery of control liposomes. Next steps include optimizing the sugar chemistry and liposome formulation.</p> <p>SciBX 6(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.197 Published online Feb. 28, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Hendricks, G.L. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Biol. Chem.</i>; published online Jan. 28, 2013; doi:10.1074/jbc.M112.437202 Contact: Jennifer P. Wang, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Mass. e-mail: jennifer.wang@umassmed.edu</p>