This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Bacterial infection	Undecaprenyl diphosphate synthase (uppS)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified inhibitors of uppS that could help treat bacterial infection. Crystallographic and <i>in vitro</i> studies identified a lead compound that inhibited uppS at 100 nM and inhibited <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> growth at concentrations below 1 µg/mL. In mice infected with <i>S. aureus</i>, a 10 mg/kg injection of the lead compound increased survival compared with vehicle injection. Next steps include synthesizing analogs and solving additional crystal structures of the compounds.</p> <p>SciBX 6(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.35 Published online Jan. 17, 2013</p>	Patent applications filed; available for licensing	<p>Zhu, W. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Dec. 17, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1219899110 Contact: Eric Oldfield, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Ill. e-mail: eo@chad.scs.uiuc.edu Contact: Yonghui Zhang, same affiliation as above e-mail: yhzhang@illinois.edu Contact: J. Andrew McCammon, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: jmccammon@ucsd.edu</p>