This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HCV; HIV/AIDS	Type I interferon receptor	<p>Mouse studies suggest neutralizing interferon (IFN) receptor signaling could help treat persistent HIV or HCV infections. In mice infected with a persistent strain of lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus (LCMV), expression of IFN, proinflammatory cytokines and immunosuppressive factors was greater than that in mice infected with an acute LCMV strain. In mice with persistent LCMV infection, prophylactic or therapeutic treatment with an anti-IFN receptor antibody initially increased viral loads but decreased or eliminated the virus during the chronic phase of infection compared with isotype control treatment. Next steps include testing the strategy in human viral infections, including HIV.</p> <p>SciBX 6(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.417 Published online May 2, 2013</p>	<p>Patent and licensing status unavailable for findings from first study</p> <p>Provisional patent application filed for findings from second study; available for licensing</p>	<p>Teijaro, J.R. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online April 12, 2013; doi:10.1126/science.1235214 Contact: Michael B.A. Oldstone, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: mboabo@scripps.edu</p> <p>Wilson, E.B. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online April 12, 2013; doi:10.1126/science.1235208 Contact: David G. Brooks, University of California Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: dbrooks@microbio.ucla.edu</p>