This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Leishmaniasis	Not applicable	<p><i>In vitro</i> and hamster studies suggest new classes of quinazolinone analogs could help treat leishmaniasis. Chemical synthesis and <i>in vitro</i> testing identified multiple lead compounds, including two quinazolinone-triazine hybrids and a quinazolinone peptide. Those molecules inhibited replication of <i>Leishmania donovani</i> with IC₅₀ values in the low micromolar or high nanomolar range. In a hamster model for leishmaniasis, selected lead compounds inhibited <i>L. donovani</i> replication by over 50% without causing observable toxicity. Future studies could include optimizing the lead compounds.</p> <p>SciBX 6(19); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.470 Published online May 16, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Sharma, M. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online April 23, 2013; doi:10.1021/jm400053v Contact: Prem M.S. Chauhan, CSIR–Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow, India e-mail: prem_chauhan_2000@yahoo.com</p>