This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Bacterial infection	Toll-like receptor 2 (TLR2); CD14	<p>Patient sample and mouse studies identified CD14-targeting peptides that could help treat bacterial infections. In mouse models for Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacterial peritonitis, CD14-binding peptides derived from leucine-rich repeat motifs in TLR2 accelerated bacterial clearance compared with saline. In whole blood samples from patients with sepsis-associated immunosuppression, two of the peptides restored chemokine responses to a challenge with bacteria and bacteria-derived antigens. Next steps could include testing the antibacterial effects in additional models of bacterial infection. Implicit Biosciences Pty. Ltd.'s IC14, an antibody targeting CD14, is in Phase II testing to treat acute lung injury.</p> <p>SciBX 6(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.580 Published online June 13, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Raby, A.-C. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online May 15, 2013; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3005544 Contact: Mario Labéa, Cardiff University, Cardiff, U.K. e-mail: wmdmol@cardiff.ac.uk Contact: Ann-Catherine Raby, same affiliation as above e-mail: rabya@cardiff.ac.uk</p>