This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Tuberculosis	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> decaprenylphosphoryl- β -D-ribose 2'-oxidase (dprE1); <i>M. tuberculosis</i> molybdopterin biosynthesis protein (moeW)	<p>Mouse and cell culture studies suggest an inhibitor of dprE1 and moeW could help treat drug-resistant tuberculosis infection. In multidrug-resistant and extensively drug-resistant strains of tuberculosis, the small molecule TCA1 showed potent bactericidal activity. In mouse models for acute and chronic <i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection, oral TCA1 decreased infection in the lung and spleen compared with no treatment and without causing weight loss or other adverse effects. In a series of genetic studies, dprE1 and moeW were implicated as the targets of TCA1. Next steps include optimizing the potency and pharmacokinetics of the compound.</p> <p>SciBX 6(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.727 Published online July 25, 2013</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Wang, F. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online June 17, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1309171110 Contact: Peter G. Schultz, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: schultz@scripps.edu Contact: William R. Jacobs Jr., Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, Bronx, N.Y. e-mail: jacobsw@hhmi.org</p>