This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Urinary tract infection (UTI)	Estrogen receptor	Cell culture and mouse studies suggest estradiol could help treat UTIs in postmenopausal women. In two human urothelial cell lines, estradiol increased mRNA expression of five antimicrobial peptides and intracellular uptake of bacteria compared with vehicle. In ovariectomized mice, lower estrogen levels correlated with higher bacterial proliferation in the bladder. Next steps include conducting studies to mitigate estradiol side effects by combining the hormone with other compounds.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Lüthje, P. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i> ; published online June 19, 2013; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3005574 Contact: Annelie Brauner, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden e-mail: annelie.brauner@ki.se
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