This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HIV/AIDS	Fc fragment of IgG receptor transporter- α (FCGRT; FCRN); HIV env	Nonhuman primate studies suggest modifying therapeutic, broadly neutralizing antibodies against HIV to have increased FCRN affinity could help prevent HIV infection. In nonhuman primates, an anti-HIV env antibody modified to have increased affinity for human and primate FCRN had a 2.5-fold longer circulating half-life and greater accumulation in the rectal mucosa than the unmodified antibody. In these nonhuman primates, injection of the modified antibody protected 7 of 12 animals challenged with simian-human immunodeficiency virus (SHIV) compared with only 2 of 12 animals treated with the unmodified antibody. Next steps include GMP manufacturing of the antibody for clinical testing.	The class of antibodies and the mutant with increased FCRN affinity have previously been patented; available for licensing	Ko, S.-Y. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online Aug. 13, 2014; doi:10.1038/nature13612 Contact: Gary J. Nabel, Sanofi, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: gary.nabel@sanofi.com Contact: John R. Mascola, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: jmascola@nih.gov
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