This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Influenza virus	Influenza A virus hemagglutinin (HA)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest CR8043 could be used as a broadly neutralizing mAb-based immunotherapy for influenza. CR8043 was produced by memory B cells obtained from donors vaccinated with seasonal influenza vaccine. In mice, CR8043 protected against H3N2 and H7N2 virus-induced death. In <i>in vitro</i> binding and trypsin cleavage studies, the mAb bound to a conserved epitope on the HA stem, inhibited conformational changes required for membrane fusion and prevented cleavage of HA that is required for infection. Next steps could include using the structure of CR8043 to guide design of a protein scaffold for vaccine studies. Johnson & Johnson's Crucell N.V. unit collaborated on this study and also has the HA-targeting, broadly neutralizing antibody CR6261 in Phase I trials to treat influenza.</p> <p>SciBX 7(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.117 Published online Jan. 30, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Friesen, R.H.E. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Dec. 11, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1319058110 Contact: Ian A. Wilson, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: wilson@scripps.edu Contact: Jaap Goudsmit, Johnson & Johnson Crucell Vaccine Institute, Leiden, the Netherlands e-mail: j.goudsmit@crucell.com</p>