This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Bacterial infection	Quinolone resistance protein (NorA)	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest boronic acid derivatives that inhibit the NorA bacterial efflux pump could help prevent antibiotic resistance. In a screen of 150 boronic compounds, 24 increased potency of the antibiotic ciprofloxacin, with the best one raising antibiotic activity 4-fold against a NorA-expressing <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> strain at low micromolar concentrations. The most potent inhibitors had low cytotoxicity against human cells and no antibacterial activity alone. Next steps could include improving the potency of the lead NorA boronic inhibitor.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Fontaine, F. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Feb. 5, 2014; doi:10.1021/jm401808n Contact: Anne-Sophie Voisin-Chiret, University of Caen Lower Normandy, Caen, France e-mail: anne-sophie.voisin@unicaen.fr
<i>SciBX</i> 7(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.287 Published online March 13, 2014				