This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HBV	Lymphotoxin- β receptor (LTBR)	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies suggest activating LTBR could help treat HBV infection. HBV forms a stable, nuclear covalently closed circular DNA (cccDNA) that prevents current therapies from eradicating the virus. In multiple cell culture models of HBV infection, antibody agonists of LTBR decreased HBV replication and cccDNA levels compared with mock treatment or human IgG. Next steps could include understanding the mechanism by which LTBR induces cccDNA degradation.</p> <p>SciBX 7(12); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.349 Published online March 27, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Lucifora, J. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Feb. 20, 2014; doi:10.1126/science.1243462 Contact: Ulrike Protzer, Technical University Munich-Helmholtz Center Munich, Munich, Germany e-mail: protzer@tum.de Contact: Mathias Heikenwalder, same affiliation as above e-mail: heikenwalder@helmholtz-muenchen.de</p>