This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Influenza virus	Microsomal prostaglandin E synthase-1 (PTGES; mPGES-1)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting PTGES could help treat influenza A virus infection. In mice infected with influenza A, <i>Ptges</i> knockout increased macrophage, monocyte and dendritic cell numbers in the lungs and increased T cell numbers in lungs and lymph nodes compared with no alteration. In mice lacking T and B cells, adoptive transfer of <i>Ptges</i>-deficient, influenza-infected macrophages led to a lower viral load and a stronger antiviral interferon response than adoptive transfer of infected wild-type macrophages. In wild-type mice, an inhibitor of PTGES decreased viral load and increased survival compared with saline. Next steps include testing a selective PTGES inhibitor in humans.</p> <p>SciBX 7(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.529 Published online May 8, 2014</p>	Findings unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Coulombe, F. <i>et al. Immunity</i>; published online April 10, 2014; doi:10.1016/j.immuni.2014.02.013 Contact: Maziar Divangahi, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada e-mail: maziar.divangahi@mcgill.ca</p>