This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Measles	Viral RNA-dependent RNA polymerase	<p>Cell culture and ferret studies suggest an orally available inhibitor of <i>Morbillivirus</i> RNA-dependent RNA polymerase could be used to treat measles. In human primary cells and cell lines infected with measles virus clinical isolates, the inhibitor showed nanomolar antiviral potency with limited cellular cytotoxicity. In ferrets intranasally infected with the <i>Morbillivirus</i> canine distemper virus (CDV), treatment with the oral inhibitor one day prior to infection and for the two weeks following resulted in increased survival and decreased viral load compared with vehicle treatment. In the ferret model, treatment with the oral inhibitor three days postinfection and for the following two weeks resulted in 100% survival and a 99% decrease in viral load compared with what was seen in vehicle-treated controls. Next steps include testing the compound in a nonhuman primate model of measles virus infection.</p> <p>SciBX 7(19); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.561 Published online May 15, 2014</p>	Patent applications pending; available for licensing from Emory University	<p>Krumm, S.A. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online April 16, 2014; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3008517 Contact: Richard K. Plemper, Georgia State University, Atlanta, Ga. e-mail: rplemper@gsu.edu</p>