This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Sepsis	Tissue factor pathway inhibitor 2 (TFPI-2; PP5)	<p>Studies in human plasma and mice suggest the TFPI-2 peptide EDC34 could help treat sepsis. In cocultures of human plasma and <i>Escherichia coli</i> or <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>, EDC34 decreased bacteria-induced coagulation compared with an inactive control peptide. In mouse models of lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced sepsis, EDC34 decreased coagulation compared with vehicle. In <i>P. aeruginosa</i>-infected mouse models of sepsis, EDC34 plus ceftazidime decreased bacteria-induced coagulation and pulmonary damage and increased survival compared with either agent alone. EDC34 did not increase the risk of bleeding. Future studies could include additional preclinical safety testing of EDC34.</p> <p>XImmune AB has EDC34 and other host-derived peptides in preclinical testing to treat sepsis.</p> <p>SciBX 7(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.59 Published online Jan. 16, 2014</p>	Patent application filed by XImmune; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Papareddy, P. <i>et al.</i> <i>PLoS Pathog.</i>; published online Dec. 5, 2013; doi:10.1371/journal.ppat.1003803</p> <p>Contact: Praveen Papareddy, Lund University Biomedical Center, Lund, Sweden e-mail: praveen.papareddy@med.lu.se</p>