This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HCV	Acyl-CoA synthetase long- chain family member 1 (ACSL1)	<p>Cell culture studies suggest inhibiting synthesis of triacylglycerides and cholesterol esters by ACSL1 could help treat chronic HCV infection. Lipid droplets containing triacylglycerides and cholesterol esters have been implicated in HCV infectivity.</p> <p>In a hepatic cell line, an ACSL1-inhibiting research reagent decreased the number of lipid droplets in the cell compared with vehicle control. In HCV-infected hepatic cells, the inhibitor decreased viral transcripts, virus release from the cells and virus particle infectivity compared with vehicle. Next steps could include developing drug-like ACSL1 inhibitors and evaluating them in an animal model of HCV.</p> <p>SciBX 7(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.828 Published online July 24, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Liefhebber, J.M.P. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i>; published online June 10, 2014; doi:10.1074/jbc.M114.582999</p> <p>Contact: John McLauchlan, MRC–University of Glasgow Centre for Virus Research, Glasgow, U.K. e-mail: john.mclauchlan@glasgow.ac.uk</p>