

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HIV/AIDS	HIV integrase	<p>A structure-activity relationship study identified a series of dihydroxybenzoyl-substituted hydrazides with HIV antiviral activity. The two most potent compounds showed submicromolar EC₅₀ values in an HIV cellular assay and inhibition of HIV integrase. Next steps include cellular assays to optimize the activity of the compounds.</p> <p>Isentress raltegravir, an HIV integrase inhibitor from Merck & Co. Inc., is approved in the U.S. and Europe to treat HIV infection. Gilead Sciences Inc.'s elvitegravir, also an HIV integrase inhibitor, is in Phase II trials to treat HIV infection.</p>	Patent status undisclosed; available for licensing	<p>Zhi Zhao, X. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Dec. 21, 2007; doi:10.1021/jm070715d</p> <p>Contact: Terrence R. Burke Jr., Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute-Frederick, National Institutes of Health, Frederick, Md. e-mail: burke@helix.nih.gov</p>