

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Cholera	GM1 ganglioside	An <i>in vitro</i> study suggests that europium(III) chloride (EuCl ₃) could be useful for treating cholera infection. Fluorescence spectroscopy revealed that EuCl ₃ blocked the binding of cholera endotoxin (Ctx) to GM1 gangliosides. EuCl ₃ has previously been shown to possess low oral toxicity in rats. Next steps include animal testing of EuCl ₃ to treat cholera.	Not patented; licensing status unknown	Williams, T. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> ; published online April 16, 2008; doi:10.1021/ja710543x Contact: A. Toby A. Jenkins, University of Bath, Bath, U.K. e-mail: a.t.a.jenkins@bath.ac.uk