This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HIV/AIDS	DEAD (Asp-Glu-Ala-Asp) box polypeptide 3, X-linked (DDX3X)	SAR studies identified an inhibitor of the helicase DDX3X that could potentially prevent HIV-1 viral replication. Computational docking analysis of the crystal structure of DDX3X bound to adenosine monophosphate provided a blueprint for the identification of DDX3X inhibitors that might prevent HIV-1 RNA nuclear export and thus viral replication. The most potent inhibitor ($IC_{50}=5.4\text{ }\mu\text{M}$) was a rhodanine derivative. Next steps include lead optimization, pharmacokinetic and ADMET studies to produce a drug candidate.	Inhibitors not yet patented; unavailable for licensing	Maga, G. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Oct. 4, 2008; doi:10.1021/jm8008844 Contact: Maurizio Botta, University of Siena, Siena, Italy e-mail: botta@unisi.it Contact: Giovanni Maga, IGM-CNR, Pavia, Italy e-mail: maga@igm.cnr.it
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