This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Bacterial infection	Matrix metalloproteinase 12 (macrophage elastase) (MMP12)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that targeting MMP12 could help treat bacterial infection. In mice challenged with <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> or <i>Escherichia coli</i> , <i>Mmp12</i> knockout animals had lower survival than wild-type littermate controls. <i>In vitro</i> , full-length recombinant human MMP12 killed <i>S. aureus</i> and <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> . Next steps could include testing MMP12 in animal bacterial infection models. <i>SciBX</i> 2(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1049 Published online July 9, 2009	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Houghton, A. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online June 17, 2009; doi:10.1038/nature08181 Contact: A. McGarry Houghton, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, Pa. e-mail: houghtonm@dom.pitt.edu