This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Bacterial infection; fungal infection	Unknown	Studies in cell culture identified peptide analogs based on dipeptide scaffolds that could be useful for treating bacterial and fungal infections. In a panel of resistant and nonresistant bacteria and a fungal strain, the most potent analogs had minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values in the 5–20 μg/mL range. In mouse fibroblasts, the synthetic peptides showed no signs of cytotoxic effects at doses up to 200 μg/mL. Next steps include optimizing the structure of the synthetic peptides and developing additional analogs.	Work unpatented; available for licensing	Sharma, R.K. *et al. J. Med. Chem.*; published online Aug. 5, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900622d **Contact:** Rahul Jain, National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, Punjab, India e-mail: rahuljain@niper.ac.in

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