This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Malaria; trypanosomiasis	Falcipain; rhodesain	SAR studies identified fumaric acid-based cysteine protease (EP-B2) inhibitors that could help treat malaria and African trypanosomiasis. A high throughput screen identified several inhibitors of the <i>Plasmodium</i> falcipain protease and the <i>Trypanosoma</i> rhodesain protease. In a second screen, the most potent inhibitors showed K_i values in the low micromolar and nanomolar ranges and had high selectivity for proteases. Next steps could include <i>in vivo</i> testing of the inhibitors. <i>SciBX</i> 2(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1414 Published online Sept. 24, 2009	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Machon, U. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Aug. 31, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900629w Contact: Tanja Schirmeister, University of Wurzburg, Wurzburg, Germany e-mail: schirmei@pvlc.uni-wuerzburg.de Contact: Carsten Schmuck, University of Duisburg-Essen, Essen, Germany e-mail: carsten.schmuck@uni-due.de