

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Malaria	<i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> hemoglobin	An <i>in vitro</i> and mouse study identified an amodiaquine analog that may help treat drug-resistant malaria. In both chloroquine-sensitive and resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> , the analog blocked the parasite's growth with IC ₅₀ values in the nanomolar range, which was comparable to those for amodiaquine. In mice infected with <i>P. yoelii</i> , the analog decreased parasitemia with an ED ₅₀ of 7.7 mg/kg. In uninfected mice, the analog had a similar level of toxicity compared with amodiaquine. Next steps could include studies to evaluate the analog in additional animal models of malaria infection.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	O'Neill, P. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online March 13, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm8012757 Contact: Paul M. O'Neill, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, U.K. e-mail: p.m.oneill01@liv.ac.uk
<p>SciBX 2(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.539 Published online April 2, 2009</p>				