

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Bacterial infection	Penicillin-binding protein 1b (PBP1b)	The X-ray crystal structure of transglycosylase PBP1b from <i>Escherichia coli</i> could help guide the development of new compounds to treat drug-resistant bacterial infections. Transglycosylase is a multidomain membrane protein essential for bacterial cell wall synthesis. The crystal structure revealed a domain for protein-protein interaction and a transmembrane helix domain essential for substrate binding, enzymatic activity and membrane orientation. Next steps include using the crystal structure to develop new inhibitors of transglycosylases.	Provisional patent application filed in U.S.; unlicensed	Sung, M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online May 18, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0904030106 Contact: Che Ma, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan e-mail: cma@gate.sinica.edu.tw
<p>SciBX 2(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.877 Published online May 28, 2009</p>				