

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Infectious disease</b>				
Influenza	Interferon $\alpha/\beta$ receptor (IFNAR1; IFNAR2; IFN-r); chemokine C-X-C motif ligand 1 (CXCL1); CXCL2	Studies in mice suggest that targeting IFN-r could help prevent secondary infections in influenza patients. Ifn-r knockout mice infected with influenza showed better survival and higher clearance of secondary <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> infections from lungs and circulation than wild-type mice. In wild-type mice infected with influenza and challenged with <i>S. pneumoniae</i> , exogenous chemoattractants CXCL1 and CXCL2 improved survival and bacterial clearance compared with no treatment. Next steps include determining type I interferon levels in flu patients and correlating those levels with development of secondary infections.	Patent application being filed; unavailable for licensing	Shanhangian, A. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online June 1, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI35412 <b>Contact:</b> Jane C. Deng, David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: <a href="mailto:jdeng@mednet.ucla.edu">jdeng@mednet.ucla.edu</a>
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