This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Influenza virus	Influenza A virus nucleoprotein (NP); ubiquitin specific peptidase 11 (USP11)	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest that inhibiting ubiquitination of NP could help treat influenza A infection. In influenza A-infected cells, overexpression of the deubiquitinating enzyme USP11 decreased viral replication compared with normal expression of inactive USP11. <i>In vitro</i> , a virus with a mutation at the NP ubiquitination site had lower replication than wild-type virus. Next steps include screening for small molecules that can target the ubiquitination site of NP.	Unpatented; licensing status unavailable	Liao, T.-L. <i>et al. EMBO J</i> ; published online Oct. 5, 2010; doi:10.1038/emboj.2010.250 Contact: Michael M.C. Lai, Institute of Molecular Biology, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan e-mail: michlai@gate.sinica.edu.tw
SciBX 3(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1235 Published online Oct. 21, 2010				