

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HIV/AIDS	HIV-1 protease	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies identified inhibitors of HIV-1 protease that could help treat multidrug-resistant HIV. In cellular assays, the lead hydroxyethylamine-based compounds resulted in greater inhibition of wild-type and multidrug-resistant HIV-1 strains than the marketed antiviral Kaletra. Next steps include further optimization of the compounds to increase antiviral activity.</p> <p>At least 12 companies have HIV protease inhibitors in development stages ranging from preclinical to marketed. Abbott Laboratories markets Kaletra lopinavir/ritonavir to treat HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>SciBX 3(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1269 Published online Oct. 28, 2010</p>	Patent applications filed covering several of the protease inhibitors; available for licensing	Ali, A. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Oct. 19, 2010; doi:10.1021/jm1008743 Contact: Tariq M. Rana, Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: trana@sanfordburnham.org