

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Infectious disease</b>				
Trypanosome; malaria; leishmaniasis	Not applicable	<p><i>In vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> studies suggest that a class of diphenyl triazole compounds could help treat parasitic infections. <i>In vitro</i>, analogs of a dicationic diphenyl triazole scaffold inhibited growth of <i>Trypanosoma brucei rhodesiense</i>, <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> and <i>Leishmania donovani</i>. In an acute mouse model of <i>T. b. rhodesiense</i> infection, one analog cured mice at lower doses than the generic antitrypanosomal drug melarsoprol. Future studies could include testing the analogs in animal models of malaria and leishmaniasis.</p> <p>Sigma-Tau S.p.A. and Pfizer Inc.'s Eurartesim dihydroartemisinin/piperaquine is in registration to treat mild to moderate malaria.</p> <p>Pfizer's macrolide antibiotic Zithromax azithromycin is in Phase III testing to treat pediatric malaria.</p> <p>Morvus Technology Ltd's MorAnt tretazicar is in preclinical development to treat trypanosome infection.</p> <p><b>SciBX 3(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.18</b>  <b>Published online Jan. 7, 2010</b></p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Bakunov, S. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Nov. 23, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm901178d</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Richard R. Tidwell, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C.  e-mail:  <a href="mailto:Tidwell@med.unc.edu">Tidwell@med.unc.edu</a></p>