This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Infectious disease	Caspase recruitment domain family member 4 (CARD4; NOD1)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that activation of NOD1 could help treat mucosal infections. In gastrointestinal epithelial cells, a NOD1-activating ligand triggered downstream production of type I interferon (IFN). In mice infected with <i>Helicobacter pylori</i> , NOD1 knockout reduced levels of IFN- β and IFN- γ , which increased bacterial burden compared with that seen in wild-type mice. Next steps include ongoing studies to determine the therapeutic potential of treating <i>H. pylori</i> infection with a NOD-1-activating ligand.	The findings have not been patented; licensing status is not applicable	Watanabe, T. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online April 12, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI39481 Contact: Warren Strober, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: wstrober@niaid.nih.gov Contact: Tomohiro Watanabe, Kyoto University Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto, Japan e-mail: tmhrwtbn@kuhp.kyoto-u.ac.jp
		SciBX 3(16); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.501 Published online April 22, 2010		