

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Infectious disease</b>				
Tuberculosis (TB)	Matrix metalloproteinase 9 (MMP9)	<p>Studies in zebrafish suggest that inhibiting MMP9 could help treat TB. In zebrafish embryos infected with <i>Mycobacterium marinum</i>, knockdown of MMP9 expression with antisense RNA reduced bacterial burdens and granuloma formation compared with MMP9 expression. Granulomas are immune cell aggregates that serve as reservoirs for infectious mycobacteria. Next steps could include evaluating the effects of MMP9 inhibitors in additional animal models of TB infection.</p> <p><b>SciBX 3(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.55</b>  <b>Published online Jan. 14, 2010</b></p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Volkman, H.E. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Dec. 10, 2009;            doi:10.1126/science.1179663  <b>Contact:</b> Lalita Ramakrishnan, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.            e-mail:  <a href="mailto:lalitar@u.washington.edu">lalitar@u.washington.edu</a></p>