

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Clostridium	Not applicable	<p>A study in cell culture suggests that thuricin CD could help treat <i>Clostridium difficile</i> infections. Thuricin CD is produced by <i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> and consists of two distinct peptides. In a panel of bacteria, thuricin CD had antibiotic activity against several types of <i>Clostridium</i>, including <i>C. difficile</i>, and against <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>, without affecting other pathogenic and commensal bacteria. In a human distal colon model, thuricin CD significantly reduced <i>C. difficile</i> viability compared with that in untreated controls ($p < 0.001$). Next steps include developing a method to encapsulate and deliver thuricin CD (see Kai's story, page X).</p> <p>SciBX 3(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.556 Published online May 6, 2010</p>	Patented; licensed to Alimentary Health Ltd.	<p>Rea, M.C. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online April 26, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0913554107 Contact: R. Paul Ross, Teagasc, Moorepark Food Research Centre, Fermoy, Ireland e-mail: paul.ross@teagasc.ie</p>