

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Malaria	Not applicable	<p>High throughput screening and <i>in vitro</i> testing identified over 13,000 lead compounds that could help develop new drugs to treat malaria. A screen of 2 million compounds in <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i>-infected human cells found 13,533 hits that inhibited >80% of the growth of a laboratory strain of the parasite and >50% of the growth of a drug-resistant strain at low micromolar concentrations. Partners GlaxoSmithKline plc and Medicines for Malaria Venture are considering which hits to further develop.</p> <p>GlaxoSmithKline's Mosquirix (GSK257049) malaria vaccine is in Phase III testing to prevent malaria infection in infants and children.</p> <p>GlaxoSmithKline's tafenoquine (SB 252263), a synthetic analog of primaquine, is in Phase II testing to treat <i>P. vivax</i> infection.</p> <p>The company's GSK932121, an electron transport chain inhibitor, is in Phase I testing to treat malaria.</p> <p>SciBX 3(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.648 Published online May 27, 2010</p>	<p>Unpatented; publicly available at http://www.ebi.ac.uk/chemblntd without licensing; available for partnering Contact: Janet Morgan, GlaxoSmithKline plc, London, U.K. e-mail: janet.b.morgan@gsk.com</p>	<p>Gamo, F.-J. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online May 19, 2010; doi:10.1038/nature09107 Contact: Jose Garcia-Bustos, GlaxoSmithKline plc, Tres Cantos, Spain e-mail: jose.f.garcia-bustos@gsk.com</p>