

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Infectious disease</b>				
Staphylococcus	Staphylococcus aureus aureusimine ( <i>ausA</i> )	A study in mice suggests that inhibiting <i>ausA</i> could help treat <i>S. aureus</i> infection. <i>S. aureus</i> genetic studies identified <i>ausA</i> s as peptide secondary metabolites. In mice, infection with <i>ausA</i> -deficient <i>S. aureus</i> led to significantly less weight loss and viral load in the heart, spleen and liver than infection with a wild-type strain ( $p < 0.001$ and $p < 0.01$ , respectively). Next steps include developing and evaluating <i>ausA</i> inhibitors in animal models.	<i>ausA</i> as a target for vaccine development and the development of <i>ausA</i> inhibitors covered by a pending patent; licensing status undisclosed	Wyatt, M.A. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online June 3, 2010; doi:10.1126/science.1188888 <b>Contact:</b> Nathan A. Magarvey, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada e-mail: <a href="mailto:magarv@mcmaster.ca">magarv@mcmaster.ca</a>
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