

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Viral infection	DNA-damage-inducible transcript 4 (DDIT4; RTP801; REDD1)	<i>In vitro</i> and cell culture studies suggest inducing REDD1 expression could help treat viral infection. A screen of 200,000 compounds identified naphthalimide-based compounds that inhibited replication of influenza virus and vesicular stomatitis virus. In wild-type cells infected with influenza virus, the lead compound induced the expression of REDD1 and increased cell survival compared with vehicle. The compound did not increase the survival of infected REDD1-deficient cells. Next steps include developing additional compounds identified in the high throughput screen.	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Mata, M.A. <i>et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online Sept. 11, 2011; doi:10.1038/nchembio.645 Contact: Beatriz M.A. Fontoura, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Dallas, Texas e-mail: beatriz.fontoura@utsouthwestern.edu
		SciBX 4(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1046 Published online Sept. 22, 2011		