

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Bacterial infection	ATP-dependent Clp protease proteolytic subunit (clpP)	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified clpP activators that could help treat bacterial infections. In a high throughput screen for <i>Escherichia coli</i> clpP activators, 5 compounds were identified that promoted clpP-mediated protein degradation activity <i>in vitro</i> and had bactericidal activity against a panel of 10 bacterial species. The most drug-like compound, termed ACP1 (activator of self compartmentalizing protease 1), was optimized to increase bactericidal activity. Next steps include further optimization of the activators for animal models of bacterial infection.	U.S. provisional patent application filed; available for licensing worldwide	Leung, E. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online Sept. 23, 2011; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2011.07.023 Contact: Walid A. Houry, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: walid.houry@utoronto.ca
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