

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Malaria	Not applicable	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies suggest propafenone analogs could help treat malaria. Synthesis and <i>in vitro</i> testing of a series of propafenone analogs identified three lead compounds with ≤ 100 nM EC₅₀ values against drug-sensitive and drug-resistant strains of <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i>. <i>In vitro</i>, the compounds had lower activity against three cardiac ion channels than the parent compound. A forthcoming publication will report the results of <i>in vivo</i> efficacy and safety testing of the lead compounds. GlaxoSmithKline plc markets Rythmol SR extended-release propafenone to treat arrhythmia.</p> <p>SciBX 4(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1120 Published online Oct. 13, 2011</p>	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Lowes, D. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Sept. 28, 2011; doi:10.1021/jm2005546 Contact: R. Kiplin Guy, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tenn. e-mail: kip.guy@stjude.org