

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Infectious disease</b>				
SARS-associated coronavirus	Cyclophilin	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies suggest cyclosporine A derivatives could help treat coronaviruses such as SARS. In a binding assay, human cyclophilins bound the coronavirus nonstructural protein 1 and helped upregulate the calcineurin pathway, which is involved in SARS pathogenesis. In a human cell line infected with the SARS coronavirus, cyclosporine A inhibited cyclophilin and blocked viral replication compared with no treatment. Next steps could include developing cyclosporine A analogs.</p> <p>At least four companies have cyclophilin inhibitors in clinical and preclinical testing for infectious diseases.</p> <p><b>SciBX 4(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1274</b> Published online Nov. 17, 2011</p>	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Pfefferle, S. <i>et al. PLoS Pathog.</i>; published online Oct. 27, 2011; doi:10.1371/journal.ppat.1002331</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Albrecht von Brunn, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Munich, Germany e-mail: <a href="mailto:vonbrunn@mvp.uni-muenchen.de">vonbrunn@mvp.uni-muenchen.de</a></p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Christian Drosten, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany e-mail: <a href="mailto:drosten@virology-bonn.de">drosten@virology-bonn.de</a></p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Jürgen Haas, The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, U.K. e-mail: <a href="mailto:juergen.haas@ed.ac.uk">juergen.haas@ed.ac.uk</a></p>