

**This week in therapeutics**

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Infectious disease</b>				
Staphylococcus	<i>S. aureus</i> pyruvate kinase	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest bisindole alkaloids could help treat methicillin-resistant <i>S. aureus</i> (MRSA). Screening a library of extracts from marine invertebrates identified bisindole alkaloids as inhibitors of MRSA pyruvate kinase. <i>In vitro</i> , the inhibitors were active against methicillin-sensitive and -resistant strains of <i>S. aureus</i> with MICs of 6–12 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ . Next steps could include optimizing the potency of the compounds.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Zoraghi, R. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online Oct. 26, 2011; doi:10.1074/jbc.M111.289033 <b>Contact:</b> Neil E. Reiner, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada e-mail: <a href="mailto:ethan@interchange.ubc.ca">ethan@interchange.ubc.ca</a>
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