

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Tuberculosis (TB)	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> Rv1258c	Cell culture studies suggest that a combination of efflux pump inhibitors and antibiotics could help treat TB. In cultured human macrophages infected with <i>M. tuberculosis</i> , the generic efflux pump inhibitor verapamil plus the antibiotic rifampin decreased bacterial survival compared with rifampin alone. In those macrophages, <i>M. tuberculosis</i> strains deficient in the efflux pump Rv1258c had greater rifampin sensitivity than wild-type <i>M. tuberculosis</i> . Next steps include further characterizing how Rv1258c contributes to drug tolerance in <i>M. tuberculosis</i> .	Unpatented; available for licensing	Adams, K.N. <i>et al. Cell</i> ; published online March 3, 2011; doi:10.1016/j.cell.2011.02.022 Contact: Lalita Ramakrishnan, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: lalitar@uw.edu
<p><i>SciBX</i> 4(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.314 Published online March 17, 2011</p>				