This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HCV	DNA-damage-inducible transcript 3 (DDIT3; CHOP10; CHOP; GADD153)	Studies in cell culture suggest that inhibiting the unfolded protein response (UPR) could help treat HCV infection. In cultured human hepatoma cells, HCV infection led to a greater UPR response and lower interferon- β (IFNB; IFN- β) expression than those in mock infected cells. In infected human hepatoma cells, small hairpin RNA knockdown of the UPR regulator CHOP increased IFN- β expression and decreased intracellular HCV RNA levels compared with those seen using control shRNA. Next steps include designing a platform to screen for compounds that inhibit UPR.	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Ke, P.-Y. & Chen, S.S.-L. <i>J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online Dec. 6, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI41474 Contact: Steve S.-L. Chen, Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan e-mail: schen@ibms.sinica.edu.tw
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