This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
<i>Enterococcus</i>	Not applicable	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified a new class of antibiotics that could help treat vancomycin-resistant <i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> infection. <i>In vitro</i> , derivatives of the vancomycin-related glycopeptide teicoplanin inhibited growth of drug-resistant strains of <i>E. faecalis</i> at concentrations 10- to 100-fold lower than those for vancomycin. In mice infected with vancomycin-resistant <i>E. faecalis</i> , i.v. injection of the lead derivative decreased blood bacterial counts compared with injection of vancomycin. Next steps include synthesizing additional analogs and identifying candidates for preclinical testing.	Patent applications filed; available for licensing	Liu, Y.-C. <i>et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online April 10, 2011; doi:10.1038/nchembio.556 Contact: Tsung-Lin Li, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan e-mail: tlili@gate.sinica.edu.tw
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