This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Smallpox; viral infection	Viral type I interferon binding protein	<p>Mouse studies suggest antibodies against viral type I interferon (IFN) binding protein could help treat diseases caused by orthopoxviruses such as smallpox. In a mouse model of lethal mousepox, injection of type I IFN binding protein antisera lowered liver viral loads and lethality up to five days postinfection compared with injection of naïve sera ($p=0.0014$ and $p=0.0377$, respectively). Next steps include testing antibodies against viral type I IFN binding protein in animal models of monkeypox infection, which also is caused by an orthopoxvirus.</p> <p>SciBX 5(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.100 Published online Jan. 26, 2012</p>	<p>Patented; available for licensing from Fox Chase Cancer Center</p> <p>Contact: Kurt Schwinghammer, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pa. phone: 215-214-3985 e-mail: kurt.schwinghammer@fccc.edu</p>	<p>Xu, R.-H. <i>et al. PLoS Pathog</i>; published online Jan. 5, 2012; doi:10.1371/journal.ppat.1002475</p> <p>Contact: Luis J. Sigal, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: luis.sigal@fccc.edu</p>