This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Herpes simplex virus (HSV)	Chemokine CXC motif ligand 9 (CXCL9; MIG); CXCL10 (IP-10)	<p>Mouse studies suggest a prime-pull vaccination strategy could help prevent HSV-2 infection. In mice transplanted with HSV-2 antigen-specific human CD8⁺ T cells, a subcutaneous HSV-2 vaccine (prime) and vaginal application of chemokines CXCL9 and CXCL10 (pull) increased vaginal levels of the CD8⁺ T cells for at least 12 weeks compared with vaccine and vehicle. In normal mice immunized with the prime-pull combination, lethal vaginal HSV-2 challenge resulted in fewer symptoms of infection, lower viral titers in peripheral dorsal root ganglia and longer survival than vaccine immunization alone. Ongoing work includes testing the prime-pull strategy as prophylaxis in nonhuman primate models of HIV infection.</p> <p>SciBX 5(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1114 Published online Oct. 25, 2012</p>	Patented by Yale University; available for licensing	<p>Shin, H. & Iwasaki, A. <i>Nature</i>; published online Oct. 17, 2012; doi:10.1038/nature11522 Contact: Akiko Iwasaki, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Conn. e-mail: akiko.iwasaki@yale.edu</p>