This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Viral infection	Lymphotoxin-α (LTA); LTB (p33)	Mouse studies suggest lymphotoxin could be used to stimulate the innate immune response against neurotropic viruses. In a mouse model of viral infection, *Ltb* knockout mice or mice treated with a decoy receptor that blocks Lta and Ltb signaling had lower macrophage activation, antiviral response and survival than wild-type or mock-treated controls, respectively. Next steps include testing the effect of lymphotoxin-mediated macrophage activation on infection with human neurotropic viruses including rabies virus, West Nile virus and herpes simplex virus. *SciBX* 5(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.282 Published online March 15, 2012	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Moseman, E.A. *et al. Immunity*; published online March 1, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.immuni.2012.01.013 **Contact:** Ulrich H. von Andrian, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: uva@hms.harvard.edu **Contact:** Matteo Iannacone, San Raffaele Scientific Institute, Milan, Italy e-mail: matteo.iannacone@hsr.it