This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
HCV	HCV envelope glycoproteins	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies have identified mAbs binding to HCV envelope glycoproteins that could help treat or prevent infection. <i>In vitro</i> screening identified 73 mAbs that bound to 5 distinct clusters of HCV envelope epitopes. In a mouse model of HCV infection, two mAbs against two distinct epitopes given before viral challenge decreased infectivity of HCV genotypes 1 and 2 compared with control antibody. Next steps include conducting additional preclinical studies of these antibodies and using their binding epitopes to aid the design of HCV vaccines.</p> <p>Nabi Biopharmaceuticals' Civacir, a polyclonal antibody against HCV, is in Phase II trials to treat HCV infection.</p> <p>Massachusetts Biologic Laboratories has an HCV-neutralizing antibody against HCV E2 in Phase I/II testing to treat HCV infection.</p> <p>SciBX 5(16); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.417 Published online April 19, 2012</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Gianga, E. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online April 4, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1114927109</p> <p>Contact: Mansun Law, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: mlaw@scripps.edu</p>