

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Chagas disease; leishmaniasis	Not applicable	<p>An <i>in vitro</i> study identified derivatives of the antifungal clotrimazole that could help treat leishmaniasis and Chagas disease. <i>In vitro</i>, ruthenium complexes of clotrimazole decreased the growth of <i>Leishmania major</i> and <i>Trypanosoma cruzi</i>, the causative agent of Chagas disease, compared with the parent compound. In mouse macrophages infected with <i>L. major</i>, one of the ruthenium complexes inhibited intracellular parasite proliferation with an IC₅₀ value of 29 nM. Next steps include testing the lead compounds in mouse models of cutaneous leishmaniasis and Chagas disease.</p> <p>SciBX 5(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.442 Published online April 26, 2012</p>	Patent status undisclosed; licensing status not applicable	<p>Martínez, A. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online March 26, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm300070h Contact: Roberto A. Sánchez-Delgado, The City University of New York Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, N.Y. e-mail: rsdelgado@brooklyn.cuny.edu Contact: Rosa A. Maldonado, The University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, Texas e-mail: ramaldonado@utep.edu</p>