

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Infectious disease</b>				
HBV	Activation-induced cytidine deaminase (AICDA; AID); IL-1 $\beta$ ; tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$ (TNF- $\alpha$ )	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest activating AID could help prevent HBV infection. In a cytokine screen in cultured hepatocytes, IL-1 $\beta$ and TNF- $\alpha$ decreased susceptibility to HBV infection and increased expression of AID compared with no treatment. In the hepatocytes, lentiviral vector-mediated expression of AID decreased HBV infection compared with an empty vector. Next steps include confirming the effect of IL-1 $\beta$ and TNF- $\alpha$ in an animal model and identifying therapeutics that activate the pathway.  <b>SciBX 6(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1163</b> <b>Published online Oct. 24, 2013</b>	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Watashi, K. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online Sept. 11, 2013; doi:10.1074/jbc.M113.501122 <b>Contact:</b> Hideki Aizaki, National Institute of Infectious Diseases, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: <a href="mailto:aizaki@nih.go.jp">aizaki@nih.go.jp</a> <b>Contact:</b> Koichi Watashi, same affiliation as above e-mail: <a href="mailto:kwatashi@nih.go.jp">kwatashi@nih.go.jp</a>