

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Infectious disease</b>				
Chagas disease; malaria; trypanosome	Not applicable	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest <i>m</i>-terphenyl and dipyridylbenzene compounds could help treat protozoan infections. <i>In vitro</i> assays identified <i>m</i>-terphenyl and dipyridylbenzene analogs that inhibited the activity of <i>Trypanosoma brucei rhodesiense</i>, <i>T. cruzi</i> and <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> at nanomolar IC<sub>50</sub> values. In mouse models for trypanosome infection, several lead compounds increased relapse-free survival compared with the generic antiprotozoal drugs pentamidine and melarsoprol. Next steps could include testing the lead compounds in mouse models for malaria infection.</p> <p>Pentamidine is approved to treat pneumonia caused by <i>Pneumocystis carinii</i>, and melarsoprol is approved to treat human African trypanosomiasis.</p> <p><b>SciBX 6(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.760</b> Published online Aug. 1, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Patrick, D.A. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online June 24, 2013; doi:10.1021/jm400508e  <b>Contact:</b> Richard R. Tidwell, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C.                      e-mail:  <a href="mailto:tidwell@med.unc.edu">tidwell@med.unc.edu</a></p>