

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
<i>Candida</i> ; fungal infection	Not applicable	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest a new class of synthetic polymers could help treat <i>Candida albicans</i> and other fungal infections. Chemical synthesis, SAR studies and <i>in vitro</i> testing of a series of nylon-3 polymers identified several lead compounds with low micromolar minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values against <i>C. albicans</i> , including strains resistant to the generic antifungals fluconazole and amphotericin B, and against <i>Cryptococcus neoformans</i> . In human red blood cells, the compounds did not induce significant hemolysis at the MICs tested. Ongoing work includes optimization of the lead compounds.	Patent application filed by the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation; available for licensing or partnering	Liu, R. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> ; published online March 7, 2014; doi:10.1021/ja500036r Contact: Samuel H. Gellman, University of Wisconsin–Madison, Madison, Wisc. e-mail: gellman@chem.wisc.edu Contact: Kristyn S. Masters, same affiliation as above e-mail: kmasters@wisc.edu
SciBX 7(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.315 Published online March 20, 2014				