

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	RSV F protein	Cell culture and mouse studies suggest nanoparticle-formulated, double-stapled RSV F peptides could be used to prevent RSV infection. In a human cell line infected with RSV, pretreatment with a double-stapled RSV F peptide decreased virus infection and virus-cell fusion events compared with vehicle pretreatment. In a mouse model of RSV infection, nasal pretreatment with the peptide decreased upper and lower respiratory infection compared with vehicle pretreatment. Also in the mouse model, intratracheal pretreatment with the peptide led to significant decreases in lower respiratory infection ($p < 0.01$). Next steps could include advancing the prophylaxis to the clinic.	Patented; available for licensing	Bird, G.H. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online April 17, 2014; doi:10.1172/JCI71856 Contact: Loren D. Walensky, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Mass. e-mail: loren_walensky@dfci.harvard.edu Contact: Shyam S. Mohapatra, James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital, Tampa, Fla. e-mail: shyam.mohapatra@va.gov
		SciBX 7(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.582 Published online May 22, 2014		