

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Tuberculosis	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> cell division protein FtsZ (MtbftsZ)	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified a new class of MtbftsZ inhibitors that could help treat tuberculosis. SAR studies and <i>in vitro</i> testing of trisubstituted benzimidazoles identified several lead compounds that inhibited the growth of <i>M. tuberculosis</i> , including drug-resistant strains, at nanomolar minimum inhibitory concentrations and without toxicity in normal nonhuman primate cells. Ongoing work includes safety and efficacy testing of several lead compounds in animal models of acute mycobacterial infection.	Patented by The Research Foundation of The State University of New York; licensed to Sanofi	Awasthi, D. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Nov. 23, 2013; doi:10.1021/jm401468w Contact: Iwao Ojima, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, N.Y. e-mail: iwao.ojima@stonybrook.edu
<p>SciBX 7(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.60 Published online Jan. 16, 2014</p>				