**This week in therapeutics**

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| Infectious disease  | DNA repair            | *In vitro* studies identified a common mechanism of antibiotic-induced cell death that could aid the design of antibiotic adjuvants. In cultured *Escherichia coli* cells, the antibiotics ampicillin, norfloxacin and kanamycin, which act via three different pathways, all induced cell death in part by oxidizing guanine to 8-oxo-deoxyguanine (8-oxo-dG) to induce DNA double-stranded breaks. Next steps could include testing inhibitors of DNA double-stranded break repair as antibiotic adjuvants. | Patent and licensing status unavailable | Foti, J.J. et al. *Science*; published online April 19, 2012; doi:10.1126/science.1219192 
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