

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Bacterial infection	DNA repair	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified a common mechanism of antibiotic-induced cell death that could aid the design of antibiotic adjuvants. In cultured <i>Escherichia coli</i> 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. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online April 19, 2012; doi:10.1126/science.1219192 Contact: Graham C. Walker, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: gwalker@mit.edu
		SciBX 5(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.523 Published online May 17, 2012		