This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammation	Natural killer cells (NK cells)	<p>Cell culture studies suggest that stimulating cytokine production by a subset of NK cells in mucosal lymphoid tissues could help treat gut inflammation. NK-22 cells, which are specifically found in the tonsils and intestinal Peyer's patches, were activated by IL-23 to secrete anti-inflammatory IL-22, IL-26 and leukemia inhibitory factor without producing proinflammatory IL-17. Next steps include developing anti-NK-22 antibodies to confirm that selective depletion of NK-22 cells in mice can contribute to gut inflammation.</p> <p>Innate Pharma S.A. and Novo Nordisk A/S have IPH 2301, a mAb targeting NK and other T cells, in preclinical testing to treat inflammation.</p> <p>SciBX 1(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.1021 Published online Nov. 20, 2008</p>	Findings unpatented; available for licensing	<p>Cella, M. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Nov. 2, 2008; doi:10.1038/nature07537</p> <p>Contact: Marco Colonna, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Mo. e-mail: mcolonna@pathology.wustl.edu</p>