

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammation	EGF-like repeats and discoidin I-like domains 3 (EDIL3; DEL1); lymphocyte function-associated antigen 1 (CD11a-CD18) (LFA-1)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that increasing DEL1 expression may be useful for decreasing inflammation. In a mouse model of lipopolysaccharide-induced lung inflammation, <i>Del1</i>^{-/-} mice had significantly higher neutrophil recruitment than wild-type controls ($p < 0.01$). In multiple cell adhesion assays, Del1 inhibited Lfa-1-dependent leukocyte adhesion to endothelial cells. Further studies are necessary to identify the minimal part of DEL1 that could function as an anti-inflammatory factor and to test the compound in mouse models of inflammation. At least five companies have LFA-1 antagonists in Phase I or earlier to treat autoimmune or inflammatory diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 1(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.1109 Published online Dec. 18, 2008</p>	Patent application filed covering research; available for licensing	<p>Choi, E.Y. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Nov. 13, 2008; doi:10.1126/science.1165218 Contact: Triantafyllos Chavakis, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: chavakist@mail.nih.gov</p>