This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Renal disease				
Glomerulonephritis	Anti-phospholipase A2 receptor 1 (PLA2R1)	<p>Autoantibodies to PLA2R1 could be diagnostic markers for idiopathic membranous glomerulonephritis. Anti-PLA2R1 was detected in the sera of 26 of 37 patients with the condition but not in the sera of patients with other autoimmune diseases or in healthy controls. Human kidney biopsies showed that PLA2R1 expressed in renal epithelial cells bound anti-PLA2R1 to form glomerular deposits. Next steps include developing a high-throughput diagnostic immunoassay and determining the pathogenic role of human anti-PLA2R in idiopathic membranous glomerulonephritis.</p> <p>SciBX 2(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1117 Published online July 23, 2009</p>	Patented; available for licensing from Boston Medical Center Corp.	<p>Beck, L. <i>et al.</i> <i>N. Engl. J. Med.</i>; published online July 2, 2009; doi:10.1056/NEJMoa0810457</p> <p>Contact: David J. Salant, Evans Biomedical Research Center, Boston, Mass. e-mail: djsalant@bu.edu</p>