This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Multiple sclerosis (MS)	Not applicable	<p>Genomewide association studies identified two new susceptibility loci that could help predict risk of MS. In two separate MS patient cohorts, three risk-associated variants were identified on chromosomes 12q13 and 12q14, and two more were found upstream of the <i>CD40</i> gene at 20q13. The identified loci have been associated with other autoimmune diseases. Next steps include sequencing the chromosome 12 locus and conducting functional studies of the <i>CD40</i> gene.</p> <p>SciBX 2(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1134 Published online July 30, 2009</p>	<p>Provisional patent application filed covering findings; available for licensing through Melbourne Ventures Pty Ltd. Contact: Andrew Leech, Melbourne Ventures Pty Ltd., Melbourne, Victoria, Australia e-mail: andrew.leech@unimelb.edu.au</p>	<p>The Australia and New Zealand Multiple Sclerosis Genetics Consortium (ANZgene). <i>Nat. Genet.</i>; published online June 14, 2009; doi:10.1038/ng.396 Contact: Justin Paul Rubio, The Howard Florey Institute, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia e-mail: justin.rubio@florey.edu.au</p>