This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Psoriasis	Lyn kinase (LYN)	<p>Studies in mice and in human skin biopsies suggest that preventing caspase-mediated cleavage of LYN could help treat psoriasis. Mice engineered to express the caspase-cleaved form of Lyn showed a chronic skin inflammatory condition similar to psoriasis. In skin biopsies from psoriasis patients, a LYN cleavage product was detected and its expression correlated with caspase-1 activation. Next steps could include identifying therapeutics that block caspase-mediated cleavage of LYN. Nippon Shinyaku Co. Ltd. and CytRx Corp. have Bafetinib, a dual BCR-ABL tyrosine kinase and LYN inhibitor, in Phase I testing to treat chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML).</p> <p>SciBX 2(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1135 Published online July 30, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Marchetti, S. <i>et al. EMBO J.</i>; published online July 9, 2009; doi:10.1038/emboj.2009.183 Contact: Patrick Auberger, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM), U895, Mediterranean Center of Molecular Medicine (C3M), Nice, France e-mail: auberger@unice.fr</p>