This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Psoriasis	IL-21	<p>Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting IL-21 could help treat psoriasis. In skin samples from human psoriasis lesions, IL-21 protein and mRNA levels were higher than those in samples from either the nonlesioned skin of psoriasis patients or skin from healthy patients. In a mouse model of the disease, an anti-IL-21 antibody reduced skin inflammation and keratinocyte proliferation compared with a control antibody. Next steps could include testing IL-21 blockade in additional animal models of psoriasis.</p> <p>SciBX 2(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1304 Published online Sept. 3, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Caruso, R. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Aug. 16, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.1995</p> <p>Contact: Giovanni Monteleone, University of Rome "Tor Vergata", Rome, Italy e-mail: Gi.Monteleone@Med.uniroma2.it</p>