This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammation	p38 mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK14; p38 MAPK)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and rodent studies identified aminopyridine <i>N</i>-oxide inhibitors of MAPK14 that could help treat inflammation. In cells treated with lipopolysaccharide (LPS), the MAPK14 inhibitors prevented production of the proinflammatory tumor necrosis factor-α (TNF-α). In a mouse model of acute inflammation and a rat model of chronic arthritis, oral administration of a lead compound reduced inflammation compared with no treatment. Next steps could include testing the lead compound in additional models of inflammation.</p> <p>At least seven companies have MAPK14 inhibitors in clinical testing to treat arthritis or inflammation.</p> <p>SciBX 2(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1316 Published online Sept. 3, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Lumeras, W. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Aug. 14, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm9008604</p> <p>Contact: Wenceslao Lumeras, Almirall S.A., Barcelona, Spain e-mail: wenceslao.lumeras@almirall.com</p>