This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Pulmonary disease				
Asthma; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)	Muscarinic acetylcholine receptor M3 (CHRM3; HM3)	<p>Studies in mice identified a tropane-based CHRM3 antagonist that could help treat asthma and COPD. The antagonist protected mice against methacholine-induced bronchoconstriction compared with vehicle. The duration of effect was dose dependent and persisted for more than 48 hours. Next steps could include evaluating the antagonist in additional animal models of bronchoconstriction-associated conditions. GlaxoSmithKline plc has two muscarinic acetylcholine antagonists in Phase II testing for COPD: darotropium and GSK573719.</p> <p>SciBX 2(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1356 Published online Sept. 10, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Lainé, D.I. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online July 24, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900736e</p> <p>Contact: Dramane I. Lain, GlaxoSmithKline plc, King of Prussia, Pa. e-mail: dramane.i.laine@gsk.com</p>