This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Autoimmune disease; Crohn's disease; multiple sclerosis (MS); myasthenia gravis; rheumatoid arthritis (RA); selective IgA deficiency; systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE); ulcerative colitis (UC)	Major <i>histocompatibility complex class I C (HLA-C)</i> ; major <i>histocompatibility complex class II DQ $\alpha 1$ (HLA-DQA1); HLA-DQB1</i> ; major <i>histocompatibility complex class II DR $\beta 1$ (HLA-DRB1)</i>	A genotyping study identified <i>HLA</i> genetic loci that could help predict susceptibility to seven autoimmune disorders. In >10,000 patients with autoimmune disorders, the strongest correlations were between a SNP on <i>HLA-C</i> and myasthenia gravis ($p=0.001$); SNPs on <i>HLA-DRB1</i> and Crohn's disease, MS, UC and SLE ($p=2.08\times 10^{-5}$ – 6.62×10^{-48}); a SNP on <i>HLA-DQA1</i> and RA ($p=1.78\times 10^{-107}$); and a SNP on <i>HLA-DQB1</i> and selective IgA deficiency ($p=3.04\times 10^{-17}$). Future work could include studying each risk locus in a larger cohort of patients with the associated autoimmune disease. SciBX 2(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1558 Published online Oct. 29, 2009	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Rioux, J. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Oct. 19, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0909307106 Contact: Stephen L. Hauser, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: hausers@neurology.ucsf.edu Contact: John D. Rioux, University of Montreal and Montreal Heart Institute, Montreal, Quebec, Canada e-mail: john.david.rioux@umontreal.ca