This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Allergy; asthma	MicroRNA-126 (miRNA-126)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting miRNA-126 could help treat allergen-induced asthma. In mice sensitized to house dust mite allergen, a subsequent challenge with the same allergen led to significantly increased expression of miRNA-126 compared with saline treatment ($n < 0.05$). In a mouse model of allergic airway inflammation, an antagomir targeting miRNA-126 lowered signs of allergen-induced airway inflammation compared with a scrambled antagomir. Next steps include studying the relevance of the results to human diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 2(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1571 Published online Oct. 29, 2009</p>	Work patented for treatment of inflammation; available for licensing from The Cooperative Research Centre for Asthma and Airways	<p>Mattes, H. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Oct. 19, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0905063106</p> <p>Contact: Paul S. Foster, The University of Newcastle, Callaghan, New South Wales, Australia e-mail: paul.foster@newcastle.edu.au</p> <p>Contact: Joerg Mattes, same affiliation as above e-mail: joerg.mattes@newcastle.edu.au</p>