This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Pneumonia	Enolase-1 (ENO1)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that blocking the binding of ENO1 to plasminogen on monocytes could help treat pneumonia. In lung tissue samples from pneumonia patients, ENO1 levels were higher than those seen in samples from healthy lungs. In human blood monocytes and a monocytic cell line, lipopolysaccharide (LPS) increased expression of ENO1 on the cell surface, plasmin production through plasminogen binding and cell migration. The effects were not seen when administering an antibody against the ENO1-plasminogen binding site or in cells expressing a truncated version of ENO1. Next steps include producing inhibitors of plasminogen-ENO1 binding.</p> <p>SciBX 2(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.232 Published online Feb. 12, 2009</p>	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Wygrecka, M. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Jan. 30, 2009; doi:10.1182/blood-2008-08-170837 Contact: Malgorzata Wygrecka, University of Giessen Lung Center, Giessen, Germany e-mail: malgorzata.wygrecka@innere.med.uni-giessen.de</p>