This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Renal disease				
IgA nephropathy	IgG; IgA	A study in human serum and in cell culture identified an antigen that could help diagnose IgA nephropathy, a form of glomerulonephritis. Serum from patients, but not healthy controls, contained IgG antibodies that recognized a modified form of IgA. <i>In vitro</i> , serum from patients reacted with the modified IgA, unlike serum from healthy controls and patients with other kinds of nephritis. Next steps include optimizing the assay for early clinical detection of the disease.	Patent pending; available for licensing	Suzuki, H. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online May 26, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI38468 Contact: Jan Novak, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Ala. e-mail: jannovak@uab.edu
<i>SciBX</i> 2(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.985 Published online June 18, 2009				