This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Transplantation				
Graft-versus-host disease (GvHD)	Peptidase inhibitor 3 skin-derived (PI3; elafin)	A study in patient samples suggests that elafin could be a useful plasma marker for skin GvHD. In plasma samples from bone marrow transplant recipients, the subset of patients with skin GvHD had plasma elafin levels that were about three times higher than those in patients lacking skin GvHD. In a separate cohort, plasma elafin levels in GvHD patients were 3.9 times higher than those in control patients that had a non-GvHD-related rash ($p < 0.001$). Next steps include confirming the association between elafin and skin GvHD in larger patient cohorts.	Work unpatented; licensing enquiries should be directed to the University of Michigan Technology Management Office	Paczesny, S. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i> ; published online Jan. 6, 2010; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3000406 Contact: James Ferrara, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. e-mail: ferrara@umich.edu Contact: Sophie Paczesny, same affiliation as above e-mail: sophiep@umich.edu
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