This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Lupus	Toll-like receptor 7 (TLR7); TLR9	<p>Studies in mice suggest that inhibition of TLR7 and TLR9 could help treat cutaneous lupus. In a mouse model of lupus with chronic skin lesions that resemble human cutaneous lupus erythematosus, a dual TLR7 and TLR9 inhibitor decreased immune cell infiltration and proinflammatory cytokine production and increased the rate of lesion healing compared with no treatment. Ongoing work includes testing TLR7 and TLR9 inhibition in other cutaneous autoimmune diseases.</p> <p>IMO-3100, a dual TLR7 and TLR9 antagonist from Idera Pharmaceuticals Inc., is in Phase I testing to treat autoimmune disorders and in preclinical testing to treat lupus, psoriasis and rheumatoid arthritis (RA). DV1179, a bifunctional inhibitor of TLR7 and TLR9 from Dynavax Technologies Corp. and GlaxoSmithKline plc, is in preclinical testing to treat autoimmune and inflammatory indications.</p> <p>SciBX 3(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1435 Published online Dec. 16, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Guiducci, C. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online Nov. 29, 2010; doi:10.1084/jem.20101048</p> <p>Contact: Franck J. Barrat, Dynavax Technologies Corp., Berkeley, Calif. e-mail: fbarrat@dynavax.com</p>