This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammation	Leukotriene B4 (LTB4); leukotriene B4 type 1 receptor (LTB4R; BLT1); leukotriene B4 type 2 receptor (LTB4R2; BLT2)	<i>In vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> studies identified BLT1 and BLT2 antagonists that could help treat inflammatory diseases. Lead optimization studies identified a series of 3,5-diarylphenyl ethers that inhibited the two targets. In rats, several of the compounds had good oral bioavailability and low toxicity. In guinea pigs challenged with an inflammatory LTB4 aerosol, the inhibitors decreased proinflammatory neutrophil recruitment compared with vehicle. In nonhuman primates, the compounds prevented neutrophil recruitment in response to allergen challenge compared with vehicle. Next steps could include further optimization of the BLT1 and BLT2 antagonists.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Goodnow, R. Jr. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online April 9, 2010; doi:10.1021/jm1001919 Contact: Robert Goodnow, Roche Research Center, Nutley, N.J. e-mail: robert.goodnow@roche.com
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