This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)	Not applicable	A study in mice suggests that stimulating invariant NK T (iNKT) cells could help treat SLE. In a mouse model of SLE, deficiency of iNKT cells led to higher autoantibody titers and B cell activity than were seen in wild-type controls. Restoration of iNKT cells in the deficient mice reduced autoimmunity compared with no treatment. Next steps include identifying the mechanism of iNKT cell suppression of autoimmunity and testing the effect of iNKT agonists in mouse models of SLE.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Wermeling, F. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i> ; published online May 3, 2010; doi:10.1084/jem.20091314 Contact: Mikael C.I. Karlsson, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden e-mail: Mikael.Karlsson@ki.se
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