This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammation; myocardial infarction (MI); atherosclerosis; lymphoma	CC chemokine receptor 2 (CCR2; CD192)	<p>Mouse studies suggest nanoparticles loaded with CCR2-targeting small interfering RNA could help treat diseases associated with inflammation. In a mouse model of MI, the loaded nanoparticles reduced infarct size and levels of proinflammatory monocytes in the heart compared with small molecule inhibitors of CCR2. In a mouse model of atherosclerosis, the nanoparticles decreased atherosclerotic lesions compared with nanoparticles loaded with control siRNA. In mice implanted with lymphoma cells, the loaded nanoparticles lowered tumor-associated macrophages and tumor growth compared with control nanoparticles. Next steps include toxicology studies and testing in large animal models.</p> <p>SciBX 4(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1148 Published online Oct. 20, 2011</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing in undisclosed areas	<p>Leuschner, F. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i>; published online Oct. 9, 2011; doi:10.1038/nbt.1989 Contact: Matthias Nahrendorf, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: mnahrendorf@mgm.harvard.edu Contact: Ralph Weissleder, same affiliation as above e-mail: rweissleder@mgm.harvard.edu</p>