This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)	Not applicable	<p>Mouse studies suggest that <i>Lactobacillus acidophilus</i> deficient in the cell wall component lipoteichoic acid could help treat IBD. In a mouse model of colitis, pretreatment with an <i>L. acidophilus</i> mutant deficient in lipoteichoic acid biosynthesis decreased the severity of colitis and levels of inflammatory cytokines compared with wild-type bacteria pretreatment. Also in the mouse model, the mutant bacteria reduced established disease compared with wild-type bacteria. Next steps include characterizing the cell surface molecules expressed <i>in vivo</i> by the mutant <i>L. acidophilus</i>.</p> <p>SciBX 4(7); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.185 Published online Feb. 17, 2011</p>	Patent application filed; unavailable for licensing	<p>Mohamadzadeh, M. <i>et al.</i> <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Jan. 31, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1005066107 Contact: Todd R. Klaenhammer, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C. e-mail: klaenhammer@ncsu.edu Contact: Mansour Mohamadzadeh, Northwestern University, Chicago Ill. e-mail: m.zadeh@northwestern.edu</p>