This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammatory disease	Protease-activated receptor 2 (PAR2)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified a pepducin antagonist of PAR2 that could help treat inflammatory diseases. In patient-derived neutrophils expressing PAR2, the lead lipopeptide-based pepducin P2pal-18S blocked PAR2 activity with an IC_{50} value of about 0.2 μ M. In a mouse model of paw edema, P2pal-18S lowered inflammation compared with vehicle. Next steps include testing the compound in additional animal models and optimizing the medicinal chemistry of the lead compound.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Sevigny, L.M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online May 2, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1017091108 Contact: Athan Kuliopulos, Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, Mass. e-mail: athan.kuliopulos@tufts.edu
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