This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Pulmonary disease				
Emphysema	Aminoacyl tRNA synthetase complex-interacting multifunctional protein 1 (AIMP1; EMAPII)	<p>Patient tissue and mouse studies suggest inhibiting EMAPII could help prevent or treat emphysema.</p> <p>In bronchoalveolar lavage fluid from patients, smokers and ex-smokers with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) had higher EMAPII levels than healthy nonsmokers. In a mouse model of cigarette smoke-induced emphysema, an EMAPII-blocking antibody decreased lung cell apoptosis and inflammation and increased lung function compared with a control antibody. Next steps include developing a humanized antibody and testing its effects in the mouse model during and following cigarette smoke exposure.</p> <p>SciBX 4(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.692 Published online June 16, 2011</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Clauss, M. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online May 16, 2011; doi:10.1172/JCI43881</p> <p>Contact: Irina Petrache, Indiana University, Indianapolis, Ind. e-mail: ipetrach@iupui.edu</p>