This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Pulmonary disease				
Pulmonary fibrosis	Dimethylarginine dimethylaminohydrolase 1 (DDAH1; DDAH); DDAH2	Studies in mice and in patient samples suggest inhibiting DDAH could help treat idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF). In lung samples from IPF patients, DDAH2 expression was greater than that in healthy lung tissue. In a mouse model of chemically induced pulmonary fibrosis, a small molecule DDAH inhibitor increased lung function and lowered collagen deposition and tissue destruction compared with saline. Next steps include studying the inhibitor in additional animal models of lung fibrosis.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Pullamsetti, S.S. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i> ; published online June 15, 2011; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3001725 Contact: Ralph Theo Schermuly, Max Planck Institute for Heart and Lung Research, Bad Nauheim, Germany e-mail: ralph.schermuly@mpibn.mpg.de
<i>SciBX</i> 4(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.746 Published online June 30, 2011				