This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Dermatology				
Dermatitis	Leukotriene B4 (LTB4); leukotriene A4 hydrolase (LTA4H);	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting LTB4 could help treat atopic dermatitis. In a mouse model of atopic dermatitis, knockout of <i>Lta4h</i> or intraperitoneal injection of an inhibitor of the LTB4-synthesizing enzyme LTB4H decreased neutrophil accumulation at dermatitis sites compared with normal <i>Lta4h</i> expression or vehicle injection. In another mouse model of atopic dermatitis, intraperitoneal injection of the LTB4H inhibitor before antigen challenge prevented development of allergic skin inflammation. Next steps include testing topical inhibitors of both LTB4 synthesis and the LTB4 type 1 receptor (BLT1) in an animal model.</p> <p>SciBX 5(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1109 Published online Oct. 25, 2012</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Oyoshi, M.K. <i>et al. Immunity</i>; published online Oct. 11, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.immuni.2012.06.018 Contact: Raif S. Geha, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, Mass. e-mail: raif.geha@childrens.harvard.edu Contact: Michiko K. Oyoshi, same affiliation as above e-mail: michiko.oyoshi@childrens.harvard.edu</p>