This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammation	Crystallin α B (CRYAB; HSPB5)	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified a mechanism for HSPB5's anti-inflammatory activity that could help improve treatment of multiple sclerosis (MS). HspB5 is known to relieve symptoms in mouse models of MS. In plasma samples from six patients with MS, immunoprecipitation studies identified about 70 proinflammatory proteins that bound to HSPB5. The binding of such proteins to HSPB5 increased with rising temperature, suggesting that temperature-mediated binding to these proteins decreases inflammation. Next steps could include toxicity testing of HSPB5.	Use of HSPB5 for treating inflammatory disorders is patented; exclusively licensed to Cardinal Therapeutics Inc.; available for licensing and partnerships	Rothbard, J.B. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online Feb. 3, 2012; doi:10.1074/jbc.M111.337691 Contact: Lawrence Steinman, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: steinman@stanford.edu
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