This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)	Cystathionine β -synthase (CBS); cystathionase (CTH)	Cell culture studies suggest blocking hydrogen sulfide (H_2S) signaling could help treat IBD. Excessive T cell activation in the gut is associated with the development of IBD. In mouse and human T cell lines, H_2S increased T cell receptor (TCR)-mediated T cell activation compared with vehicle. In mouse T cells, small interfering RNA against Cbs or Cth, which are involved in H_2S biosynthesis, decreased proliferation compared with that seen using scrambled siRNA. Next steps include examining the <i>in vivo</i> role of H_2S levels on T cell activation and proliferation using slow-releasing H_2S donor molecules.	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Miller, T.W. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online Dec. 13, 2011; doi:10.1074/jbc.M111.307819 Contact: David D. Roberts, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: drobot@helix.nih.gov
<i>SciBX</i> 5(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.34 Published online Jan. 12, 2012				