This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Dental disease				
Periodontitis	EGF-like repeats and discoidin I-like domains 3 (EDIL3; DEL1)	Human and mouse studies suggest DEL1 could help prevent or treat periodontitis. In patients with periodontitis and in aged mice, DEL1 levels were lower than those in healthy controls. <i>Del1</i> -deficient mice had greater neutrophil infiltration in the gingiva and more periodontal bone loss than age-matched, wild-type controls. In a mouse model of periodontitis, gingival or systemic injection of a Del1-Fc fusion protein decreased neutrophil infiltration, inflammation in the gingiva and periodontal bone loss compared with injection of Fc control. Planned studies include optimizing DEL1-based therapies to prevent and treat periodontitis.	Patented by the University of Louisville Research Foundation and the NIH; available for licensing or partnering	Eskan, M.A. <i>et al. Nat. Immunol.</i> ; published online March 25, 2012; doi:10.1038/ni.2260 Contact: George Hajishengallis, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: geoh@upenn.edu
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