This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Renal disease				
Renal failure	Transglutaminase 2 (TGM2; TG2)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting TG2 could help treat IgA-induced nephropathy. In mice, transgenic overexpression of human immunoglobulin heavy constant α 1 (IGHA1; IgA1) and solute carrier family 3 member 2 (SLC3A2; CD98) resulted in IgA-induced nephropathy with IgA1 kidney deposition, proteinuria and hematuria. In the same mice and in serum samples from patients with IgA nephropathy, TGM2 levels were higher in the kidneys than levels in kidneys of wild-type mice and healthy controls. Also in the mice, <i>Tgm2</i> knockout eliminated IgA1 kidney deposition and hematuria and decreased other symptoms of kidney disease compared with normal <i>Tgm2</i> expression. Next steps could include identifying TGM2 inhibitors.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Berthelot, L. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i> ; published online March 26, 2012; doi:10.1084/jem.20112005 Contact: Renato C. Monteiro, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM), Paris, France e-mail: renato.monteiro@inserm.fr
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