This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Allergy; asthma; inflammatory disease	Prostaglandin D ₂ receptor (CRTH2; GPR44; CD294)	Rodent and sheep studies identified a diazine indole acetic acid-based CRTH2 antagonist that could help treat allergic inflammatory diseases such as asthma. In mouse models of contact hypersensitivity and dust mite allergy, the CRTH2 antagonist decreased ear swelling and airway inflammation compared with vehicle. In a sheep model of asthma, the CRTH2 antagonist lowered airway bronchoconstriction and airway hyperresponsiveness compared with vehicle. Next steps could include testing the lead CRTH2 inhibitor in additional animal models of allergic inflammatory diseases. At least eight companies have CRTH2 antagonists in Phase II testing or earlier to treat allergy, asthma and inflammation.	Patent application filed covering indole-based CRTH2 antagonists; licensing status unavailable	Kaila, N. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online May 31, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm300007n Contact: Neelu Kaila, Pfizer Worldwide Medicinal Chemistry, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: neelu.kaila@pfizer.com
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