This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Multiple sclerosis (MS)	G protein- coupled receptor 17 (GPR17)	Cell culture studies suggest inhibiting GPR17 could help promote remyelination in MS. In oligodendrocyte cultures from <i>Gpr17</i> heterozygous mice, a Gpr17 agonist inhibited differentiation into mature, myelin-producing cells, whereas it had no effect in cultures from <i>Gpr17</i> knockout mice. Next steps include investigating GPR17 function in human induced pluripotent stem cell-derived oligodendrocytes and developing a GPR17 antagonist in partnership with an undisclosed pharma company. Omeros Corp. has a GPR17 antagonist in preclinical development to treat MS. <i>SciBX</i> 6(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1249 Published online Nov. 14, 2013	Patent application filed; unavailable for licensing	Hennen, S. <i>et al. Sci. Signal.</i> ; published online Oct. 22, 2013; doi:10.1126/scisignal.2004350 Contact: Evi Kostenis, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany e-mail: kostenis@uni-bonn.de Contact: Jesus Gomeza, same affiliation as above e-mail: jgomeza@uni-bonn.de