This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammation	Adrenergic receptor α_2 (ADRA2)	<p>Rat studies suggest ADRA2 agonists could help reduce fevers. In rats, injection of the ADRA2 agonist clonidine in the brain inhibited thermogenesis. Also in rats, intraperitoneal injection of the ADRA2 agonist Precedex dexmedetomidine decreased lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced fever compared with saline injection. Next steps include determining whether ADRA2 agonists could be dosed at a level that reduces fever without also causing known cardiovascular side effects.</p> <p>Orion Corp., Abbott Laboratories and Hospira Inc. market Precedex as a sedative.</p> <p>Clonidine is a generic antihypertensive drug.</p> <p>SciBX 6(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.141 Published online Feb. 14, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Madden, C.J. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online Jan. 30, 2013; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.4701-12.2013 Contact: Christopher J. Madden, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, Ore. e-mail: maddench@ohsu.edu</p>