This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Autoimmune disease	IL-7; IL-7 receptor (IL-7R; CD127)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest soluble IL-7R can enhance the activity of IL-7, a cytokine that plays roles in autoimmune disease and antiviral immunity. In cultured T cells, soluble IL-7R plus IL-7 increased the duration of IL-7 activity compared with IL-7 alone. In a mouse model for experimental autoimmune encephalitis (EAE), IL-7 plus soluble IL-7R exacerbated disease pathology. Next steps include evaluating soluble IL-7R as a biomarker for multiple sclerosis (MS) and using soluble IL-7R to enhance the antiviral effect of IL-7 in models for infection.</p> <p>Cytheris S.A.'s CYT107 recombinant IL-7 is in Phase II trials to treat progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML).</p> <p>SciBX 6(19); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.457 Published online May 16, 2013</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Lundström, W. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online April 22, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1222303110</p> <p>Contact: Crystal L. Mackall, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: mackallc@mail.nih.gov</p>