This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Pulmonary disease				
Pulmonary disease	Mucin 5B oligomeric mucus/gel-forming (MUC5B)	<p>Patient studies suggest the rs35705950 SNP in the <i>MUC5B</i> promoter region could be a marker of interstitial lung disease risk. In a combined analysis of genomic data and chest CT scans from 2,633 subjects, the rs35705950 SNP in the <i>MUC5B</i> promoter region was associated with a 2.8-fold greater risk of interstitial lung abnormalities and a 6.3-fold greater risk of pulmonary fibrosis ($p < 0.001$). Next steps include studying early forms of interstitial lung disease and developing intervention strategies based on decreasing MUC5B expression.</p> <p>SciBX 6(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.608 Published online June 20, 2013</p>	Patent applications filed; available for licensing	<p>Hunninghake, G.M. <i>et al.</i> <i>N. Engl. J. Med.</i>; published online May 21, 2013; doi:10.1056/NEJMoa1216076 Contact: David A. Schwartz, University of Colorado Denver, Aurora, Colo. e-mail: david.schwartz@ucdenver.edu Contact: Gary M. Hunninghake, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Mass. e-mail: ghunninghake@partners.org</p>