This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammatory disease	Heparan sulfate glycosaminoglycan (HSGAG)	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified heparan sulfate mimetics that could help treat inflammatory diseases. Sulfated HSGAGs regulate proinflammatory chemokines, but such compounds can have unwanted inhibitory effects on coagulation. HSGAG mimetics were designed from a disaccharide precursor core with tunable binding properties based on variable sulfation sequences. <i>In vitro</i> , a trisulfated mimetic antagonized heparin binding to the proinflammatory chemokine CC motif ligand 5 (RANTES; CCL5) without altering the coagulation cascade. Next steps could include testing the lead mimetics in animal models of inflammation.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Sheng, G.J. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> ; published online July 23, 2013; doi:10.1021/ja4027727 Contact: Linda C. Hsieh-Wilson, California Institute of Technology and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Pasadena, Calif. e-mail: lhw@caltech.edu
<i>SciBX</i> 6(33); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.896 Published online Aug. 29, 2013				