This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammation	Phospholipase A ₂ group IVA cytosolic calcium-dependent (PLA ₂ G4A; cPLA ₂ -α)	<p>Rodent and cell culture studies have identified a series of 3-(1-aryl-1<i>H</i>-indol-5-yl) propanoic acid-based cPLA₂-α inhibitors that could help treat inflammatory conditions. <i>In vitro</i>, lead compounds inhibited cPLA₂-α with sub-100 nanomolar IC₅₀ concentrations. In a mouse model of ear edema, the best cPLA₂-α inhibitor decreased ear swelling by about 30%, the maximal response typically observed in the model. In a guinea pig model of asthma, the same cPLA₂-α inhibitor decreased antigen-induced asthmatic response and airway hyperresponsiveness compared with saline control. Data on the anti-inflammatory effects of cPLA₂-α inhibitors in <i>in vivo</i> models will be reported in an upcoming publication.</p> <p>Pfizer Inc. and Ziarco Pharma Ltd. have the cPLA₂-α inhibitor ZPL-5212372 in Phase I testing to treat asthma.</p> <p>Asubio Pharma Co. Ltd., a subsidiary of Daiichi Sankyo Co. Ltd., is not disclosing the developmental status of its cPLA₂-α inhibitor program.</p> <p>SciBX 7(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1104 Published online Sept. 25, 2014</p>	Patented for use in allergic and inflammatory conditions; available for licensing	<p>Tomoo, T. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Aug. 7, 2014; doi:10.1021/jm500494y</p> <p>Contact: Toshiyuki Tomoo, Asubio Pharma Co. Ltd., Hyogo, Japan e-mail: tomoo.toshiyuki.fg@asubio.co.jp</p>