This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Allergy; allergic rhinitis; atopic dermatitis	S100 calcium binding protein A4 (S100A4)	<p>Human and mouse studies suggest inhibiting S100A4 could help treat allergy. In patients with allergic rhinitis or allergic dermatitis, S100A4 levels in nasal fluid or skin lesions were higher than those in corresponding samples from healthy controls. In blood monocytes from the patients with rhinitis, an anti-S100A4 antibody decreased levels of allergy-associated, proinflammatory cytokines compared with pretreatment baselines. In mouse models of atopic dermatitis, the anti-S100A4 antibody decreased skin inflammation, leukocyte recruitment to the skin and draining lymph nodes, and circulating levels of T helper type 2 (Th2) cell IgG compared with an inactive antibody. Ongoing work includes investigating the role of S100A4 in asthma.</p> <p>Lykera Biomed S.A. has LK-1, a humanized antibody against S100A4, in preclinical development to treat pancreatic cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 7(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.124 Published online Jan. 30, 2014</p>	Unpatented; available for licensing	<p>Bruhn, S. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Jan. 8, 2014; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3007410 Contact: Mikael Benson, Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden e-mail: mikael.benson@liu.se Contact: Zou Xiang, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden e-mail: zou.xiang@gu.se</p>