This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Stroke; ischemia/ reperfusion injury	IL-21	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting IL-21 signaling could help prevent ischemia/reperfusion injury in stroke. In mice, cerebral ischemia/reperfusion injury increased <i>Il-21</i> expression compared with no injury. In a mouse model of cerebral ischemia/reperfusion injury, knockout of <i>Il-21</i> or treatment with an IL-21 decoy receptor decreased neuronal injury compared with no alteration or saline treatment. Next steps could include testing IL-21 inhibitors in combination with antithrombotic drugs in models of ischemic stroke. Novo Nordisk A/S has a recombinant human mAb against IL-21 in Phase II testing to treat Crohn's disease and Phase I trials to treat lupus.</p> <p>SciBX 7(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.437 Published online April 17, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Clarkson, B.D.S. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online March 10, 2014; doi:10.1084/jem.20131377</p> <p>Contact: Zsuzsanna Fabry, University of Wisconsin–Madison, Madison, Wis. e-mail: zfabry@facstaff.wisc.edu</p>