This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Autoimmune disease	Inducible T cell kinase (ITK)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting ITK could help treat autoimmune diseases. In mice, double knockout of <i>Ctla-4</i> (<i>Cd152</i>) and <i>Itk</i> led to T_{reg} cell accumulation in the lymph nodes and prevented T cell migration, multiorgan autoimmunity and lethality normally caused by <i>Ctla-4</i> knockout. In female, nonobese, diabetic mice, an ITK inhibitor increased T_{reg} cell accumulation in lymph nodes and decreased T cell migration into islets compared with vehicle and blocked insulinitis caused by T cell transfer. Next steps include identifying ITK inhibitors that block T cell migration.</p> <p>SciBX 7(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.5 Published online Jan. 9, 2014</p>	Patent application filed; unavailable for licensing	<p>Jain, N. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Nov. 24, 2013; doi:10.1038/nm.3393</p> <p>Contact: Joonsoo Kang, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Mass. e-mail: joonsoo.kang@umassmed.edu</p>