This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Multiple sclerosis (MS)	Granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GM-CSF; CSF2); GM-CSF receptor (CSF2RA; GMR; CD116)	Studies in patient samples suggest antagonizing GM-CSF or CSF2RA could help treat MS. Cerebrospinal fluid samples from patients with MS active flares had higher levels of GM-CSF-expressing T helper cells than samples from patients with noninflammatory neurological pathologies. These GM-CSF-expressing T helper cells had higher levels of CNS migration markers than other T helper cell populations. Next steps could include testing the effect of GM-CSF-antagonizing mAbs in cell culture and in mouse models of neuroinflammation and MS. Amgen Inc.'s anti-GM-CSF mAb, namilumab (MT203), is in Phase I testing for rheumatoid arthritis (RA).	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Noster, R. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i> ; published online June 18, 2014; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3008706 Contact: Christina E. Zielinski, Charité-University Hospital Berlin, Berlin, Germany e-mail: christina.zielinski@charite.de
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