

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP)	EndoS	Studies in rabbits and mice suggest that EndoS could be useful for treating ITP and other IgG-mediated autoimmune diseases. EndoS is a secreted endoglycosidase from <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> that hydrolyzes the N-linked glycan of IgG, which in turn reduces downstream complement activation. In a mouse model of lethal IgG-driven ITP, EndoS prevented the development of disease and rescued mice with established disease characterized by severe thrombocytopenia and subcutaneous bleeding. Next steps include additional preclinical studies in other animal models of autoimmune disease to identify in which diseases to start clinical testing.	Patent application filed by Hansa Medical AB in the U.S. and Europe for EndoS treatment of conditions involving IgG autoantibodies; unlicensed	Collin, M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Feb. 3, 2008; doi:10.1073/pnas.0711271105 Contact: Mattias Collin, Lund University, Lund, Sweden e-mail: mattias.collin@med.lu.se