This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Autoimmune	TL1A; death receptor 3 (DR3) or tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily 25 (TNFRSF25)	*In vitro* and *in vivo* studies suggest that targeting the TL1A-DR3 pathway could be useful for treating autoimmune diseases mediated by T helper type 17 (Th17) cells. *In vitro*, DR3 expression was selectively increased in Th17 cells. TL1A, which binds DR3, improved the proliferation of Th17 effector cells. Compared with what was seen in wild-type mice, those lacking TL1A had lower disease severity upon induction of experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE), a model of multiple sclerosis (MS). Dendritic cells lacking TL1A had less of an ability to support Th17 differentiation and proliferation than did both wild-type dendritic cells and those that produced TL1A. Researchers did not disclose next steps.	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Pappu, B. *et al. J. Exp. Med.*; published online April 14, 2008; doi:10.1084/jem.20071364 **Contact:** Linda C. Burkly, Biogen Idec Inc., Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: linda.burkly@biogenidec.com **Contact:** Chen Dong, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas e-mail: cdong@mdanderson.org