

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammatory disease	Phospholipase A ₂ (PLA ₂)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and animal studies identified two indole cytosolic PLA₂-α inhibitors (efipladib and WAY-196025) that could help treat inflammatory disease. A series of <i>in vitro</i> assays showed that the two PLA₂-α inhibitors lowered arachidonic acid (AA) release compared with that seen in untreated cells. The metabolism of AA produces multiple mediators of inflammation. In rat models of inflammation and asthma, the two PLA₂-α inhibitors reduced disease severity better than or equal to the indole inhibitor ecopladib. Wyeth did not disclose next steps. Wyeth's efipladib and WAY-196025 are in clinical and preclinical testing, respectively. The developmental status of ecopladib, which was discovered by Wyeth, is undisclosed.</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>McKew, J.C. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online May 23, 2008; doi:10.1021/jm701467e Contact: John C. McKew, Wyeth Research, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: jmckew@wyeth.com</p>