

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Inflammation</b>				
Chronic inflammatory diseases	Twist homolog 1 (TWIST1)	Studies in human primary cell culture and mice suggest that antagonizing TWIST1 on T helper type 1 (T <sub>H</sub> 1) cells could help treat chronic inflammatory diseases. T <sub>H</sub> 1 cells isolated from humans with ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease and with spondyloarthropathies and rheumatoid arthritis (RA) had high levels of TWIST1 compared with naive and CCR7 <sup>+</sup> central memory T cells. Next steps include testing whether downstream effector cells are needed for inflammation caused by T <sub>H</sub> 1 cells with high levels of TWIST1.	A patent application has been filed for the role of TWIST1 in inflammation; licensing status is undisclosed	Niesner, U. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i> ; published online July 28, 2008; doi:10.1084/jem.20072468 <b>Contact:</b> Andreas Radbruch, German Rheumatism Research Center Berlin, Berlin, Germany e-mail: <a href="mailto:radbruch@drfz.de">radbruch@drfz.de</a>