

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammatory disease	Interleukin-33 (IL-33)	Studies in mice suggest that antagonizing IL-33 could help treat inflammation and rheumatoid arthritis. Wild-type mice that received IL-33 developed increased cutaneous and articular pain sensitivity compared with saline controls. In mice with antigen-induced pain sensitivity, the decoy IL-33 receptor ST2 reversed the sensitization. Next steps include further preclinical development of the anti-IL-33 antibodies.	Not patented; unlicensed	Verri, W. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Feb. 4, 2008; doi:10.1073/pnas.0712116105 Contact: Sérgio H. Ferreira, University of São Paulo, Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo, Brazil e-mail: shferrei@fmrp.usp.br