

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammatory disease	Complement component 3 (C3); complement component 5 (C5); IL-8 (CXCL8)	<p>Studies in cell culture suggest that the Staphylococcal superantigen-like 5 (SSL5) protein may be useful in treating disorders characterized by excessive recruitment of leukocytes, such as inflammatory diseases. In cultured neutrophils, SSL5 prevented leukocyte activation induced by C3, C5 and CXCL8 in a dose-dependent manner. In cellular assays, SSL5-treated cells did not show signs of toxicity. Next steps include identifying a nonimmunogenic SSL5 analog for use in humans.</p> <p>SciBX 1(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.975 Published online Nov. 6, 2008</p>	Patent pending for use in inflammatory diseases mediated by neutrophil influx such as reperfusion injury; available for licensing	<p>Bestebroer, J. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Oct. 21, 2008; doi:10.1182/blood-2008-04-153882 Contact: Jovanka Bestebroer, University Medical Center Utrecht, Utrecht, the Netherlands e-mail: j.bestebroer@umcutrecht.nl</p>