

This week in therapeutics

| Indication | Target/marker/pathway | Summary | Licensing status | Publication and contact information |
|---------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Infectious disease | | | | |
| Enterovirus | P selectin glycoprotein ligand-1 (SELPLG; PSGL-1; CD162); scavenger receptor class B member 2 (SCARB2) | <p>Two cell-culture studies suggest that targeting PSGL-1 and SCARB2 could help treat hand, foot and mouth disease caused by enterovirus 71 (EV71). <i>In vitro</i>, an anti-PSGL-1 antibody or soluble PSGL-1 decoy receptor prevented EV71 from entering PSGL-1-expressing cells.</p> <p>An anti-SCARB2 antibody or antibody fragment significantly inhibited viral infection of SCARB2-expressing cells. Ongoing work includes studies on the role of the PSGL-1 and EV71 interaction in viral pathogenesis and the development of a mouse model expressing human SCARB2.</p> <p>Y's Therapeutics Co. Ltd.'s YSPSL, a fusion protein of PSGL-1 and human IgG that acts as a P selectin agonist, is in Phase II testing to prevent ischemic reperfusion injury in liver transplant patients.</p> <p>SciBX 2(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1012 Published online June 25, 2009</p> | <p>For the first study: patented; available for licensing</p> <p>For the second study: patented; licensing status undisclosed</p> | <p>Nishimura, Y. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online June 21, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.1961 Contact: Hiroyuki Shimizu, National Institute of Infectious Diseases, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: hshimizu@nih.go.jp</p> <p>Yamayoshi, S. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online June 21, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.1992 Contact: Satoshi Koike, Tokyo Metropolitan Organization for Medical Research, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: koike-st@igakuken.or.jp</p> |