

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Various</b>				
Colitis; wounds	Interleukin-22 (IL-22); signal transducer and activator of transcription 3 (STAT3)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that enhancing STAT3 activity could help treat colitis and gut mucosal wounds. In mice with intestinal epithelial cell-specific Stat3 deficiency, colitis resulted in more severe gastrointestinal tissue damage compared with that in mice expressing functional Stat3. In mouse gut mucosal biopsy samples, Stat3-deficient samples had delayed mucosal wound healing compared with that seen in gut mucosal biopsies taken from control mice. Knockout studies in mice showed that <i>Stat3</i> expression is induced by Il-22. Next steps could include evaluating the effects of activating STAT3 in animal models of colitis or gut mucosal wounds.</p> <p><b>SciBX 2(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1123</b>  <b>Published online July 23, 2009</b></p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Pickert, G. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online June 29, 2009; doi:10.1084/jem.20082683</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Christoph Becker, Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Mainz, Germany            e-mail: <a href="mailto:chbecker@uni-mainz.de">chbecker@uni-mainz.de</a></p>