This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Allergy	Major cat allergen I (1PUO; Fel D1)	<p>Studies in human cell culture and in mice suggest that a viral particle vaccine could be useful for treating cat allergy. <i>In vitro</i> and in mice, a complex of cat saliva protein Fel D1 coupled to bacteriophage particles led to lower mast cell degranulation and anaphylactic shock than Fel D1 alone. In mice, vaccination with the antigen-virus complex reduced allergic response to Fel D1 compared with mock vaccination. Next steps include scaling up production of the virus-antigen complex in preparation for clinical trials.</p> <p>ImVisioN Therapeutics AG's NV201, a Fel D1 vaccine, in Phase I/II trials for cat allergy.</p> <p>SciBX 2(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1245 Published online Aug. 20, 2009</p>	Patented; available for partnering	<p>Schmitz, N. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online Aug. 10, 2009; doi:10.1084/jem.20090199</p> <p>Contact: Martin F. Bachmann, Cytos Biotechnology AG, Zurich, Switzerland e-mail: martin.bachmann@cytos.com</p>