

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Fungal infection	CD5	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that soluble CD5 could potentially treat fungal sepsis. In protein binding assays, the ectodomain of the human CD5 lymphocyte surface receptor bound to fungal cell wall components, causing cell aggregation and facilitating pathogen clearance. In a mouse model of fungal-induced sepsis, intraperitoneal human CD5 ectodomain pretreatment increased mouse survival and lowered serum cytokine levels compared with what was seen in mice that were not pretreated. Next steps could include determining whether CD5 has benefits in the adaptive immune response to microbes and using the molecule to treat fungal infections <i>in vivo</i>.</p> <p>SciBX 2(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.145 Published online Jan. 29, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Vera, J. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Jan. 5, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0805846106 Contact: Francisco Lozano, Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain e-mail: flozano@clinic.ub.es</p>