

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Various</b>				
Colitis; inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)	Ectonucleoside triphosphate diphosphohydrolase 1 (ENTPD1; CD39)	Genetic association studies and tests in mice suggest that increasing CD39 expression might help treat IBD and colitis. In a mouse model of acute colitis, animals with <i>CD39</i> knockout had significantly less colitis and ulceration of colonic mucosa than wild-type mice ( $p < 0.012$ ). In Crohn's disease patients, low levels of CD39 correlated with greater susceptibility to IBD. The next steps include developing soluble CD39 and derivatives.	Patent status unknown; available for licensing	Friedman, D. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Sept. 28, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0902869106 <b>Contact:</b> Simon C. Robson, Harvard University, Boston, Mass. e-mail: <a href="mailto:srobson@bidmc.harvard.edu">srobson@bidmc.harvard.edu</a>
		<i>SciBX</i> 2(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1486 Published online Oct. 8, 2009		