

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Gastrointestinal disease				
Colitis	<i>Cadherin 1, type 1</i> , <i>E-cadherin (CDH1)</i> ; <i>cadherin 3, type 1</i> , <i>P-cadherin (CDH3)</i> ; <i>hepatocyte nuclear factor 4α (HNFA)</i> ; <i>laminin β1 (LAMB1)</i>	Genomewide association studies identified loci that could help predict susceptibility to ulcerative colitis (UC). Genotyping of UC patients and healthy controls identified significant associations with UC at <i>HNF4A</i> on chromosome 20q13 ($p=2.3\times 10^{-17}$), <i>LAMB1</i> on chromosome 7q31 ($p=3\times 10^{-8}$) and <i>CDH1</i> and <i>CDH3</i> on chromosome 16q22 ($p=2.8\times 10^{-8}$). In previous association studies, <i>CDH1</i> was linked to colorectal cancer. Next steps could include fine mapping and functional studies of the loci to confirm the associations.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Barrett, J. <i>et al. Nat. Genet.</i> ; published online Nov. 15, 2009; doi:10.1038/ng.483 Contact: Chris C.A. Spencer, Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics, Oxford, U.K. e-mail: chris.spencer@well.ox.ac.uk Contact: Jeffrey C. Barrett, Wellcome Trust Genome Campus, Hinxton, Cambridge, U.K. e-mail: barrett@sanger.ac.uk
		SciBX 2(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1729 Published online Dec. 10, 2009		