

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammation	Monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 (MCP-1; CCL2); chemokine (C-C motif) receptor 2 (CCR2); integrin α_4 (ITGA4); P selectin (SELP; CD62P)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that preventing monocyte recruitment to the CNS could help treat CNS inflammation associated with peripheral organ inflammation. In a mouse model of hepatic inflammation, knockout of MCP-1 or its receptor, CCR2, prevented inflammatory monocyte recruitment to the CNS. Anti-SELP or anti-ITGA4 antibodies prevented CNS monocyte recruitment and improved social behaviors compared with what was seen using no treatment. Next steps include looking at the signaling mechanism between circulating monocytes and activated microglia to identify CNS targets associated with peripheral inflammation.</p> <p>SciBX 2(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.322 Published online Feb. 26, 2009</p>	Unpatented; licensing status undisclosed	<p>D'Mello, C. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online Feb. 18, 2009; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.3567-08.2009</p> <p>Contact: Mark G. Swain, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada e-mail: swain@ucalgary.ca</p>