SciBX
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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Tissue damage	Receptor-interacting serine-threonine kinase 3 (RIPK3; RIP3)	Studies in cell culture suggest that inhibiting RIP3 could be useful for preventing tissue necrosis associated with a variety of diseases. In $RIP3^{-/-}$ macrophages, a necrosis-promoting caspase inhibitor failed to increase tumor necrosis factor (TNF)- or lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-stimulated cell death. In two cell lines, RIP3 overexpression increased the necrosis-promoting effects of the caspase inhibitor compared with overexpression of control proteins. Next steps include validating the therapeutic effects of RIP3 inhibition in animal models of disease-associated necrosis such as that following ischemia. *SciBX* 2(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.954 Published online June 11, 2009	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Zhang, D.-W. *et al. Science*; published online June 4, 2009; doi:10.1126/science.1172308 **Contact:** Jiahuai Han, Xiamen University, Xiamen, Fujian, China e-mail: jhan@xmu.edu.cn