

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hepatic disease				
Liver disease	CC chemokine receptor 1 (CCR1); CCR5; chemokine C-C motif ligand 5 (RANTES; CCL5)	<p>Studies in humans, in mice and in cell culture suggest that targeting CCR1 and CCR5 could help treat liver fibrosis. Hepatic CCR1, CCR5 and RANTES were upregulated in two mouse models of fibrogenesis and in patients with liver cirrhosis. In mouse models of liver fibrosis, animals given a broad-spectrum chemokine inhibitor or with knockout of either <i>Ccr1</i> or <i>Ccr5</i> had less hepatic fibrosis than controls. Ongoing work includes testing CCR1 and CCR5 inhibitors in additional models of liver fibrosis.</p> <p>Pfizer Inc. markets the CCR5 antagonist Selzentry maraviroc to treat HIV infection.</p> <p>Schering-Plough Corp.'s CCR5 antagonist vicriviroc is in Phase III testing to treat HIV infection.</p> <p>Progenics Pharmaceuticals Inc.'s anti-CCR5 mAb, PRO 140, is in Phase II testing to treat HIV infection.</p> <p>SciBX 2(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.975 Published online June 18, 2009</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Seki, E. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online June 15, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI37444</p> <p>Contact: Robert F. Schwabe, Columbia University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: rfs2102@columbia.edu</p> <p>Contact: Ekihiro Seki, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: ekseki@ucsd.edu</p>