

## This week in therapeutics

| Indication                | Target/marker/<br>pathway                     | Summary  | Licensing<br>status                            | Publication and contact<br>information  |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| <b>Autoimmune disease</b> |   |  |  |   |
| Psoriasis                 | VEGF receptor 3<br>(FLT4; VEGFR-3);<br>VEGF-C | <p>Mouse studies suggest that increasing VEGFR-3 signaling could help treat psoriasis and chronic inflammatory skin disorders that are associated with increased angiogenesis and impaired lymphatic flow. In a transgenic mouse model of chronic skin inflammation, genetic upregulation of VEGF-C, which activates VEGFR-3, decreased skin inflammation and improved lymphatic vessel function compared with normal expression of VEGF-C. Next steps include identifying small molecules that stimulate VEGFR-3-mediated lymphangiogenesis.</p> <p><b>SciBX 3(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1113</b><br/>Published online Sept. 23, 2010</p> | Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing | <p>Huggenberger, R. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online Sept. 13, 2010;<br/>doi:10.1084/jem.20100559</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Michael Detmar,<br/>The Swiss Federal Institute of<br/>Technology Zurich,<br/>Zurich, Switzerland<br/>e-mail:<br/><a href="mailto:michael.detmar@pharma.ethz.ch">michael.detmar@pharma.ethz.ch</a></p> |