This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Lupus	Biglycan (BGN)	<p>Studies in human samples and in mice suggest that inhibiting BGN signaling could help treat lupus nephritis. In plasma and kidney biopsy sections from lupus nephritis patients, BGN levels were greater than those in healthy controls. In a mouse model of lupus nephritis, a deficiency in Bgn resulted in fewer disease symptoms than those in nondeficient controls. Next steps include evaluating ways to inhibit BGN signaling.</p> <p>SciBX 3(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1374 Published online Dec. 2, 2010</p>	Unpatented; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Moreth, K. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Nov. 15, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI42213</p> <p>Contact: Liliana Schaefer, Institute for General Pharmacology and Toxicology, Frankfurt am Main, Germany e-mail: Schaefer@med.uni-frankfurt.de</p>