SciBX
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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Autoimmune	Fc fragment of IgG receptor transporter-α (FCGRT; FCRN)	*In vitro* and mouse studies suggest that antagonizing the interaction between IgG and FCRN could help treat autoimmune diseases. FCRN helps maintain proper levels of systemic IgG. An *in vitro* assay identified dimeric peptide inhibitors of the IgG-FCRN interaction. In transgenic mice expressing human *FCRN*, the inhibitors reduced IgG levels compared with those in wild-type mice. Next steps include ongoing toxicology studies and formulation studies of one of the dimeric peptides. *SciBX* 3(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.175 Published online Feb. 11, 2010	Patent application filed for composition of matter for the treatment of autoimmune diseases; unavailable for licensing	McDonnell, K. *et al. J. Med. Chem.*; published online Jan. 21, 2010; doi:10.1021/jm901128z **Contact:** Adam R. Mezo, Syntonix Pharmaceuticals Inc., Waltham, Mass. e-mail: adam.mezo@biogenidec.com