

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Autoimmune; multiple sclerosis (MS)	Toll-like receptor 2 (TLR2)	<p>A study in mice suggests that inhibiting TLR2 signaling could help treat MS and other autoimmune disorders. In a mouse model, experimental autoimmune encephalitis (EAE), transplantation of <i>Tlr2</i>-deficient CD4 cells led to reductions in disease severity and incidence compared with transplantation of wild-type CD4 cells. Next steps include studying how endogenous TLR2 signals are generated and how they can influence EAE pathogenesis <i>in vivo</i>.</p> <p>OPN-305, a humanized IgG4 monoclonal antibody against TLR2 from Opsona Therapeutics Ltd., is in preclinical development for inflammatory diseases and ischemia/reperfusion injury.</p> <p>Cleveland BioLabs Inc.'s Protectan CBLB612, a TLR2-targeting synthetic lipopeptide derived from mycoplasma, is in preclinical development for hematological indications.</p> <p>SciBX 3(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.547 Published online May 6, 2010</p>	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Reynolds, J. <i>et al. Immunity</i>; published online April 29, 2010; doi:10.1016/j.immuni.2010.04.010</p> <p>Contact: Chen Dong, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas e-mail: cdong@mdanderson.org</p>