

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Sepsis	Complement 3 (C3)	<p>A study in baboons suggests that inhibiting C3 activity could help treat sepsis-associated organ failure. In a baboon model of <i>Escherichia coli</i>-induced sepsis, the C3 inhibitor compstatin prevented sepsis-associated decreases in blood pressure compared with no treatment. Compstatin also preserved organ function and attenuated organ injury compared with what was seen in controls. Next steps include pharmacokinetic and toxicity studies. Compstatin, a synthetic peptide C3 inhibitor from Potentia Pharmaceuticals Inc., is in Phase I testing to treat age-related macular degeneration (AMD).</p> <p>SciBX 3(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.651 Published online May 27, 2010</p>	<p>Patent pending covering compstatin and its analogs; available for licensing from the University of Pennsylvania Center for Technology Transfer and the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation Technology Transfer Office; use in ocular diseases exclusively licensed to Potentia Pharmaceuticals</p>	<p>Silasi-Mansat, R. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online May 13, 2010; doi:10.1182/blood-2010-02-269746 Contact: Florea Lupu, The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Oklahoma City, Okla. e-mail: florea-lupu@omrf.org</p>