

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)	Tumor necrosis factor- α -induced protein 3 (TNFAIP3; A20)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that increasing A20 expression in the intestinal epithelium could help treat IBD. Mice with intestinal epithelium-specific inactivation of A20 had greater susceptibility to colitis, intestinal cell apoptosis and infiltration of inflammation-inducing bacteria than wild-type littermates. Next steps include screening for compounds and peptides that increase the expression or activity of A20 to treat IBD.</p> <p>SciBX 3(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.756 Published online June 24, 2010</p>	Findings unpatented; intestinal epithelium-specific A20 knockout mice available for licensing	<p>Vereecke, L. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online June 7, 2010; doi:10.1084/jem.20092474</p> <p>Contact: Geert van Loo, VIB, Ghent, Belgium e-mail: geert.vanloo@dmb.vib-UGent.be</p> <p>Contact: Rudi Beyaert, same affiliation as above e-mail: rudi.beyaert@dmb.vib-UGent.be</p>