

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)	Integrin α_9	<p>Studies in mice suggest antagonizing integrin α_9 could help treat RA. In a mouse model of RA, an anti-integrin α_9 mAb lowered production of the proinflammatory cytokine Il-17 and the severity of RA symptoms compared with control mAbs. Next steps include producing a humanized version of the anti-integrin α_9 mAbs and testing them in nonhuman primate models of inflammatory and autoimmune diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 4(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1259 Published online Nov. 17, 2011</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing	<p>Kanayama, M. <i>et al. J. Immunol.</i>; published online Oct. 28, 2011; doi:10.4049/jimmunol.1101524 Contact: Toshimitsu Uede, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan e-mail: toshi@igm.hokudai.ac.jp</p>