

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Asthma	Tumor necrosis factor ligand superfamily member 14 (TNFSF14; LIGHT; CD258)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that inhibiting LIGHT could help treat asthma by decreasing airway remodeling. In two mouse models of allergen-induced chronic asthma, a Light inhibitor called Ltβr-Fc prevented airway remodeling and reduced airway hyperresponsiveness compared with an IgG control. Ltβr-Fc is a fusion protein that contains the IgG Fc chain and one of Light's receptors, lymphotoxin β receptor (Ltbr; Ltβr). In Light-deficient mice exposed to allergen, airway remodeling and hyperresponsiveness were lower than those in wild-type mice exposed to allergen. Next steps include target validation in animal disease models.</p> <p>SciBX 4(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.487 Published online April 28, 2011</p>	Patents pending; available for licensing	<p>Doherty, T.A. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online April 17, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2356</p> <p>Contact: Michael Croft, La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: mick@liai.org</p>