

THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Inflammation	Growth differentiation factor 15 (GDF15); integrin β_2 (LFA-1; MAC-1; CD18)	Cell culture studies suggest that recombinant GDF15 could help treat inflammatory disease. GDF15 was previously shown to be upregulated after heart attack and in inflammatory disease. In cultured human polymorphonuclear leukocytes, recombinant GDF15 inhibited proinflammatory integrin β_2 activation compared with vehicle control. Next steps include identifying a receptor for GDF15 on leukocytes. <i>SciBX</i> 4(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.516 Published online May 5, 2011	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Kempf, T. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i> ; published online April 24, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2354 Contact: Kai C. Wollert, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany e-mail: wollert.kai@mh-hannover.de Contact: Dietmar Vestweber, University of Muenster, Muenster, Germany e-mail: vestweb@mpi-muenster.mpg.de