This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Autoimmune disease; multiple sclerosis (MS)	Leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF)	Mouse studies suggest increasing LIF could help treat autoimmune diseases like MS. In a mouse model of experimental autoimmune encephalitis (EAE), i.v. neural progenitor cells (NPCs) decreased disease severity compared with i.v. saline. In the treated mice, a LIF-neutralizing mAb blocked the therapeutic effect of NPCs compared with a control mAb. GlaxoSmithKline plc did not disclose next steps, which could include identifying compounds that boost LIF expression. *SciBX* 4(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.897 Published online Aug. 18, 2011	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Cao, W. *et al. Immunity*; published online Aug. 11, 2011; doi:10.1016/j.immuni.2011.06.011 **Contact:** Jingwu Z. Zhang, Chinese Academy of Sciences and Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine, Shanghai, China e-mail: jingwu.z.zang@gsk.com