This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Autoimmune disease	Transmembrane protein 173 (STING; TMEM173)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting STING could help treat autoimmune disease triggered by extracellular host DNA. Cellular uptake of excess self-DNA is thought to drive autoimmune diseases including lupus and polyarthritis. In polyarthritic mice lacking DNase II, knockout of the cytosolic DNA sensor <i>Sting</i> blocked the development of the disease and decreased inflammatory cytokine production compared with normal expression of <i>Sting</i>. Next steps could include blocking STING activity in additional models of autoimmune disease.</p> <p>SciBX 5(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1177 Published online Nov. 15, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Ahn, J. <i>et. al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Nov. 6, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1215006109 Contact: Glen N. Barber, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, Fla. e-mail: gbarber@med.miami.edu</p>