

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Multiple sclerosis (MS)	CC chemokine receptor 4 (CCR4; CD194)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting CCR4 on dendritic cells could help treat MS. In mice with experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE), <i>Ccr4</i> knockout decreased disease severity and immune cell infiltration into the spinal cord compared with wild-type <i>Ccr4</i> expression. In the EAE model, <i>Ccr4</i> knockout mice that received intracerebral delivery of <i>Ccr4</i>^{+/+} dendritic cells developed encephalomyelitis. Next steps could include developing inhibitors of CCR4 on dendritic cells.</p> <p>Kyowa Hakko Kirin Co. Ltd.'s mogamulizumab, a humanized mAb against CCR4, is under review to treat T cell lymphoma.</p> <p>Affitech A/S's CCR4 mAb, AT008, is in preclinical testing for cancer, autoimmune and inflammatory indications.</p> <p>SciBX 5(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.275 Published online March 15, 2012</p>	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Poppensieker, K. <i>et al.</i> <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Feb. 21, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1114153109</p> <p>Contact: Judith Alferink, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany e-mail: judith.alferink@ukb.uni-bonn.de</p>