

**This week in therapeutics**

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Autoimmune disease</b>				
Autoimmune disease	Dedicator of cytokinesis 2 (DOCK2)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified a small molecule DOCK2 inhibitor that could help treat autoimmune disease. Deletion of <i>Dock2</i> has previously been shown to prevent the development of autoimmune diseases in mice. <i>In vitro</i> screening identified a compound that blocked DOCK2-mediated activation of a downstream GTPase. In mice, intraperitoneal injection of the compound decreased lymphocyte homing to the spleen compared with injection of vehicle. Next steps include developing more potent DOCK2 inhibitors.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Nishikimi, A. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online April 20, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2012.03.008 <b>Contact:</b> Yoshinori Fukui, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan e-mail: <a href="mailto:fukui@bioreg.kyushu-u.ac.jp">fukui@bioreg.kyushu-u.ac.jp</a>
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