This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Dermatology				
Itch	Toll-like receptor 3 (TLR3)	<p>Studies in mice suggest antagonizing TLR3 could help treat itching. In a mouse model of chemically induced pruritus, global <i>Tlr3</i> knockout or <i>Tlr3</i> knockout only in the dorsal root ganglia led to lower levels of itch than no knockout. Next steps include testing the effects of TLR3 antagonists in mice.</p> <p>SciBX 5(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.602 Published online June 7, 2012</p>	<p>Patent pending; available for licensing from Brigham and Women's Hospital</p> <p>Contact: Arlene Parquette, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Mass. e-mail: aparquette@partners.org</p>	<p>Liu, T. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online May 8, 2012; doi:10.1172/JCI45414</p> <p>Contact: Ru-Rong Ji, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, N.C. e-mail: ru-rong.ji@duke.edu</p>