

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	Formyl peptide receptor 1 (FPR1); α -hemolysin (α HL)	<p>Mouse and cell culture studies suggest targeting bacterial FPR1 agonists and αHL could help treat infection-induced pain. In mouse models of pain, FPR1 agonists and αHL increased mechanical and heat hypersensitivity compared with saline. In these models, αHL-deficient bacteria caused less hypersensitivity than wild-type bacteria. In <i>Fpr1</i>-deficient mice, heat-killed bacteria had no effect on mechanical or heat sensitivity. Next steps include identifying additional bacterial mediators of pain.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 6(36); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1002 Published online Sept. 19, 2013</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Chiu, I.M. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Aug. 21, 2013; doi:10.1038/nature12479 Contact: Clifford J. Woolf, Boston Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: clifford.woolf@childrens.harvard.edu</p>