

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Autoimmune disease</b>				
Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)	<i>Porphyromonas gingivalis</i> peptidyl arginine deiminase (PgPADI; PgPAD)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting PgPAD could help treat RA. In mice, inoculation with wild-type <i>P. gingivalis</i> increased levels of protein citrullination and production of antibodies against citrullinated proteins compared with PAD-deficient <i>P. gingivalis</i>. In a collagen-induced arthritis mouse model, infection with wild-type <i>P. gingivalis</i> increased the proportion of mice that developed the condition and the severity of arthritic symptoms compared with infection with PAD-deficient <i>P. gingivalis</i>. Next steps include testing inhibitors of human PAD (PADI) and PgPAD in preclinical models of RA.</p> <p><b>SciBX 6(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1154</b>  <b>Published online Oct. 24, 2013</b></p>	<p>Patent and licensing information available from 4SC AG and the Gums and Joints Consortium</p>	<p>Maresz, K.J. <i>et al. PLoS Pathog.</i>; published online Sept. 12, 2013;            doi:10.1371/journal.ppat.1003627  <b>Contact:</b> Piotr Mydel, University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway            e-mail:  <a href="mailto:piotr.mydel@gades.uib.no">piotr.mydel@gades.uib.no</a></p>