

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Inflammation</b>				
Inflammation	Elastase	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies identified elastase inhibitors that could help treat inflammation. In enzymatic assays, marine cyanobacterium-derived molecules called symplastatins inhibited human neutrophil elastase (NE; ELA-2) with potency comparable to that of the marketed inhibitor sivelestat. In bronchial epithelial cells, the lead compound prevented elastase-induced inflammation with potency comparable to that of sivelestat. Next steps could include further optimization of the new compounds for <i>in vivo</i> testing.</p> <p>Ono Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. markets sivelestat to treat acute lung injury.</p> <p><b>SciBX 6(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.142</b> Published online Feb. 14, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Salvador, L.A. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Jan. 28, 2013; doi:10.1021/jm3017305</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Hendrik Luesch, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla. e-mail: <a href="mailto:luesch@cop.ufl.edu">luesch@cop.ufl.edu</a></p>