

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Asthma	Formyl peptide receptor-like 1 (FPR1; FPR2)	Cell culture studies suggest agonizing FPR2 in innate immune cells could be useful for treating asthma. Patients with severe asthma showed higher levels of active innate immune cells in blood and lungs than healthy controls. In patient-derived innate immune cell cocultures, the FPR2 ligand lipoxin A4 (LXA4) increased NK cell-mediated apoptosis of eosinophils and decreased levels of the inflammatory cytokine IL-13 compared with vehicle. Next steps include clinical testing of LXA4 analogs in models of asthma.	Patents pending; available for licensing	Barnig, C. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i> ; published online Feb. 27, 2013; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3004812 Contact: Bruce D. Levy, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Mass. e-mail: blevy@partners.org
<p>SciBX 6(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.242 Published online March 14, 2013</p>				