

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Autoimmune disease	IL-17; serum/glucocorticoid regulated kinase 1 (SGK1)	<p>Two independent studies suggest inhibiting SGK1 could help treat autoimmune diseases. <i>In vitro</i>, high salt concentrations promoted the differentiation of naïve human CD4⁺ cells into T helper type 17 (Th17) cells, induced IL-17 production and increased expression of SGK1. In a mouse model for experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE), <i>Sgk1</i>-deficient animals had lower disease incidence and severity than nondeficient controls. Next steps could include testing the therapeutic effect of SGK1 inhibitors in models of Th17 cell-driven autoimmune diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 6(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.305 Published online April 4, 2013</p>	<p>Findings in first study unpatented; licensing status not applicable</p> <p>Patent and licensing status for findings in second study unavailable</p>	<p>Kleinewietfeld, M. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online March 6, 2013; doi:10.1038/nature11868 Contact: David A. Hafler, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Conn. e-mail: david.hafler@yale.edu Contact: Markus Kleinewietfeld, same affiliation as above e-mail: markus.kleinewietfeld@yale.edu</p> <p>Wu, C. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online March 6, 2013; doi:10.1038/nature11984 Contact: Vijay K. Kuchroo, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: vkuchroo@rics.bwh.harvard.edu Contact: Aviv Regev, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: aregev@broadinstitute.org</p>