This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
<i>Staphylococcus</i>	<i>Staphylococcus</i> leukotoxin AB (lukAB); complement receptor 3 (CR3; CD11b); MAC-1 (CD11b-CD18)	Cell culture studies suggest inhibiting lukAB signaling could help treat <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> infection. In cultured, neutrophil-like cells, immunoprecipitation experiments showed that lukAB directly bound the CD11b subunit of MAC-1. In these cells, small hairpin RNA knockdown of CD11b or pretreatment with an anti-CD11b antibody decreased <i>S. aureus</i> -mediated membrane damage compared with no knockdown or pretreatment. Next steps include developing additional tools to evaluate the contribution of lukAB to <i>S. aureus</i> pathogenicity during infections.	Patent application filed; licensed to an undisclosed company	DuMont, A.L. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online June 10, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1305121110 Contact: Victor J. Torres, New York University School of Medicine, New York, N.Y. e-mail: victor.torres@nyumc.org
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