

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Inflammation</b>				
Allergy; asthma	Not applicable	<p>Mouse studies suggest immunization with allergen peptides conjugated to a prodrug of <math>\alpha</math>-galactosylceramide (<math>\alpha</math>GC) could help treat allergen-induced asthma. In a mouse model of ovalbumin-sensitized asthma, immunization with the <math>\alpha</math>GC-ovalbumin peptide conjugate decreased the airway inflammatory response to ovalbumin challenge compared with immunization using a mixture of the two compounds. Next steps could include creating and testing similar conjugates in additional asthma models.</p> <p><b>SciBX 7(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1266</b>  <b>Published online Nov. 6, 2014</b></p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Anderson, R.J. <i>et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.</i>; published online Oct. 5, 2014; doi:10.1038/nchembio.1640  <b>Contact:</b> Ian F. Hermans, Malaghan Institute of Medical Research, Wellington, New Zealand                      e-mail: <a href="mailto:ihermans@malaghan.org.nz">ihermans@malaghan.org.nz</a>  <b>Contact:</b> Gavin F. Painter, Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand                      e-mail: <a href="mailto:gavin.painter@vuw.ac.nz">gavin.painter@vuw.ac.nz</a></p>