

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Allergy; inflammation	Myeloid differentiation primary response gene 88 (MYD88)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified parasitic worm-based compounds that could help treat or prevent inflammation and allergy. In a screen of a drug-like small molecule library based on the structure of phosphorylcholine (PC), an anti-inflammatory product from <i>Acanthocheilonema viteae</i> with poor drug-like properties, a sulfone-containing analog was identified that potently inhibited cytokine production from stimulated macrophages. In a mouse model of collagen-induced arthritis, the analog protected the animals from arthritis by inhibiting Myd88. Next steps include additional studies to further define the compound's mechanism of action.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Al-Riyami, L. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Nov. 14, 2013; doi:10.1021/jm401251p Contact: William Harnett, Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, U.K. e-mail: w.harnett@strath.ac.uk
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