

This week in therapeutics

| Indication | Target/marker/pathway | Summary | Licensing status | Publication and contact information |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Autoimmune disease | | | | |
| Multiple sclerosis (MS) | Lipocalin (LCN2; NGAL) | <i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting LCN2 could help treat MS. In an experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE) mouse model of MS, compared with wild-type mice, <i>Lcn2</i> expression was increased in the spinal cord, lymph nodes and spleen. In the EAE model, <i>Lcn2</i> knockout decreased disease severity, inflammatory cell infiltration into the spinal cord and demyelination compared with no alteration. Next steps include developing pharmacological inhibitors of LCN2 signaling. | Findings unpatented; available for licensing | Nam, Y. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online May 7, 2014; doi:10.1074/jbc.M113.542282 Contact: Kyoungcho Suk, Kyungpook National University School of Medicine, Daegu, South Korea e-mail: ksuk@knu.ac.kr |
| | | SciBX 7(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.666 Published online June 12, 2014 | | |