

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)	IL-9	<p>Studies in human samples and mice suggest antagonizing IL-9 could help treat IBD. In samples from patients with ulcerative colitis (UC), <i>IL-9</i> expression was higher than that in samples from healthy controls and was associated with active disease. In a mouse model of UC, <i>IL-9</i> knockout decreased weight loss, proinflammatory cytokine expression and mucosal inflammation compared with no alteration. In the mouse model, an anti-IL-9 antibody decreased body weight loss and colitis severity compared with an isotype control antibody. Next steps include assessing expression of <i>IL-9</i> in patients who are refractive to anti-tumor necrosis factor (TNF) therapy and testing the effects of IL-9 on mucosal healing.</p> <p>SciBX 7(27); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.786 Published online July 17, 2014</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Gerlach, K. <i>et al. Nat. Immunol.</i>; published online June 8, 2014; doi:10.1038/ni.2920</p> <p>Contact: Markus F. Neurath, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Erlangen, Germany e-mail: markus.neurath@uk-erlangen.de</p>