

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Colitis; liver cancer	Prostaglandin D ₂ (PGD ₂); PGD ₂ receptor (CRTH2; GPR44; CD294)	<p>Mouse studies suggest agonizing the PGD₂ receptor could help treat colitis and prevent colitis-associated colon cancer. In a mouse model of colitis, genetic depletion of the enzyme producing PGD₂ increased colitis severity and tumor formation and decreased survival compared with no alteration. In mice, a PGD₂ receptor agonist decreased colon inflammation and tumor formation compared with no treatment. Next steps include developing new agents to activate PGD₂ signaling.</p> <p>SciBX 7(27); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.804 Published online July 17, 2014</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Iwanaga, K. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online June 1, 2014; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-13-2792 Contact: Takahisa Murata, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: amurata@mail.ecc.u-tokyo.ac.jp</p>