

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Autoimmune disease	RAR-related orphan receptor C thymus-specific isoform (ROR γ 2; ROR γ T)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest RORγT inhibitors could suppress T helper type 17 (Th17) cells to help treat autoimmune diseases. In cultured human Th17 cells, three RORγT inhibitors identified from a small molecule library screen each suppressed production of the proinflammatory cytokine IL-17. In a mouse model of experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE), oral GSK805, which was found to inhibit RORγT, or subcutaneous injection of one of the RORγT inhibitors from the screen delayed disease onset and decreased disease severity compared with vehicle. Next steps could include testing the inhibitors in additional autoimmune disease models.</p> <p>Innovimmune Biotherapeutics Inc. has the RORγT inverse agonist INV-17 in preclinical development for various autoimmune and inflammatory conditions. GSK805 is an investigational compound to inhibit the HCV NS5A protein that the Janssen Pharmaceutical Inc. unit of Johnson & Johnson acquired from GlaxoSmithKline plc.</p> <p>SciBX 7(19); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.549 Published online May 15, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Xiao, S. <i>et al. Immunity</i>; published online April 17, 2014; doi:10.1016/j.immuni.2014.04.004 Contact: Vijay K. Kuchroo, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: vkuchroo@rics.bwh.harvard.edu Contact: Alexander Marson, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: alexander.marson@ucsf.edu</p>