This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Congestive heart failure (CHF)	Four and a half LIM domains 1 (FHL1)	<p>A study in mice suggests that inhibiting FHL1 may be useful for protecting against stress-induced cardiac hypertrophy. Cardiac muscles of FHL1^{-/-} mice showed lower levels of mitogen-activated protein kinase 1 (MAPK1) activation in response to pressure overload-induced cardiac hypertrophy than wild-type controls. The hypertrophic FHL1^{-/-} mice also showed less ventricular enlargement and had significantly lower left ventricular impairment at five weeks than wild-type controls ($p < 0.05$). Next steps could include developing ways to block FHL1's interactions with MAPK signaling pathway components.</p> <p>SciBX 1(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.1074 Published online Dec. 11, 2008</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Sheikh, F. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Nov. 3, 2008; doi:10.1172/JCI34472</p> <p>Contact: Ju Chen, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: juchen@ucsd.edu</p>