This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Coronary artery disease (CAD)	Neuropeptide Y (NPY)	An <i>in vitro</i> study suggests that targeting NPY secretion could be useful in treating CAD. In an endocrine cell line, a variant of NPY previously associated with early onset CAD in humans was processed and secreted at higher levels in response to excitatory stimulation compared with what was seen in wild-type NPY controls. Next steps include testing the effect of targeting this NPY variant on macrophage stimulation and low density lipoprotein recruitment in animal models of atherosclerosis and CAD.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Mitchell, G.C. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i> ; published online Dec. 31, 2009; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0343-08.2008 Contact: Matthew D. Whim, Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pa. e-mail: mdw13@psu.edu
SciBX 2(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.141 Published online Jan. 29, 2009				