This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Hypertension	Peroxisome proliferation- activated receptor- γ (PPARG; PPAR γ)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that increasing PPARγ levels could help treat hypertension. In mice, a twofold increase in PPARγ levels resulted in mean blood pressure that was about 2.8 mm Hg lower than that in controls ($p < 0.05$). Reducing PPARγ levels by 50% led to a mean blood pressure that was about 2.8 mm Hg higher than that of control mice ($p < 0.01$). Next steps could include evaluating the effect of increasing PPARγ expression in animal models of hypertension.</p> <p>Multiple PPARγ agonists are on the market to treat type 2 diabetes.</p> <p>SciBX 2(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1629 Published online Nov. 12, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Tsai, Y.-S. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Nov. 2, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0909657106</p> <p>Contact: Nobuyo Maeda, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C. e-mail: nobuyo@med.unc.edu</p> <p>Contact: Jenny Langenbach, same affiliation as above e-mail: jenny_langenbach@med.unc.edu</p>