This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Ischemia; myocardial infarction (MI)	MicroRNA-92a (miRNA-92a)	A study in mice and in cell culture suggests that inhibiting miRNA-92a could help treat ischemia and MI. In a mouse hind limb ischemia model, an oligonucleotide-based antagonist targeting miRNA-92a (antagomir-92a) decreased toe necrosis and increased signs of functional recovery in the ischemic limb compared with control oligonucleotide or saline buffer. In a mouse model of acute MI, antagomir-92a increased left ventricular function and decreased infarct size compared with controls. Next steps include optimizing the dosing protocol and addressing the side effects of targeting miRNA-92a.	Patent application filed for use in ischemic diseases; available for licensing from the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt and Innovectis GmbH	Bonauer, A. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online May 21, 2009; doi:10.1126/science.1174381 Contact: Stefanie Dimmeler, Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany e-mail: dimmeler@em.uni-frankfurt.de
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