This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Renal disease				
Renal disease	Midkine (MDK)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that targeting MDK could help prevent hypertension and renal damage from chronic kidney disease. In a mouse model of chronic kidney disease, <i>Mdk</i>^{-/-} mice with damaged kidneys had less hypertension and renal damage than wild-type mice subjected to kidney damage. Wild-type mice receiving the antioxidant tempol had lower levels of Mdk, which decreased hypertension. Next steps include verifying the relationship between renal inflammation and hypertension following kidney damage.</p> <p>SciBX 2(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.923 Published online June 4, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Hobo, A. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online May 18, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI37249</p> <p>Contact: Kenji Kadomatsu, Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya, Japan e-mail: kkadoma@med.nagoya-u.ac.jp</p>