This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Hypertension	Endothelial cell nitric oxide synthase 3 (NOS3; eNOS); protein kinase cGMP-dependent type 1 (PRKG1; PKG1)	A study in patients and in mice suggests that blocking PKG1 nitration or inhibiting eNOS could help treat pulmonary hypertension. eNOS activity and PKG1 tyrosine nitration was higher in lung tissue from patients with idiopathic pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) than in lung tissue from healthy individuals. In mice, a superoxide scavenger or NOS inhibitor reversed disease symptoms, whereas controls treated with inactive analogs or saline were unaffected. Moreover, adenovirus-mediated overexpression of Pkg1 in mouse lungs decreased pulmonary hypertension compared with overexpression of a control vector. Next steps include evaluating whether knocking in a PKG1 mutant resistant to tyrosine nitration could prevent pulmonary hypertension.	Patent application filed for the treatment of pulmonary hypertension; available for licensing from the University of Illinois at Chicago Office of Technology Management Contact: David Gulley, University of Illinois, Chicago, Ill. phone: 312-996-0722 e-mail: dgulley@otm.uic.edu	Zhao, Y.-Y. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online June 1, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI33338 Contact: You-Yang Zhao, University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago, Ill. e-mail: yyzhao@uic.edu
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