This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Hypertension	Fatty acid amide hydrolase (FAAH)	<p>Studies in rodents identified a FAAH inhibitor that could help treat hypertension. In hypertensive rats, the inhibitor normalized blood pressure and improved cardiac contractility compared with those seen in rats treated with an existing FAAH inhibitor or in sham-treated rats without hypertension. Next steps include testing the FAAH inhibitor for analgesic activity in inflammatory and neuropathic pain models.</p> <p>Infinity Pharmaceuticals Inc. and partners Mundipharma International Ltd. and Purdue Pharma L.P. are developing IPI-940, a FAAH inhibitor that is in Phase I testing for pain.</p> <p>SciBX 3(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1443 Published online Dec. 16, 2010</p>	Patent application filed by the NIH and Northeastern University; available for licensing	<p>Godlewski, G. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i>; published online Nov. 24, 2010; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2010.08.013</p> <p>Contact: George Kunos, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: george.kunos@nih.gov</p> <p>Contact: Alexandros Makriyannis, Northeastern University, Boston, Mass. e-mail: a.makriyannis@neu.edu</p>