This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Atrial fibrillation	Myeloperoxidase (MPO)	<p>Studies in mice and in human samples suggest that inhibiting MPO could help treat or prevent atrial fibrillation. In mouse models of angiotensin-induced atrial fibrillation, <i>Mpo</i> knockout led to less atrial fibrillation-associated fibrosis than that in wild-type controls. <i>Mpo</i> knockout also protected against fibrillation caused by electrophysiological stimulation. In plasma samples from patients who experienced atrial fibrillation, MPO levels were higher than those in plasma samples from unaffected subjects. Next steps include identifying acceptable MPO inhibitors.</p> <p>SciBX 3(12); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.374 Published online March 25, 2010</p>	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Rudolph, V. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online March 21, 2010; doi:10.1038/nm.2124</p> <p>Contact: Stephan Baldus, University Heart Center, Hamburg, Germany e-mail: baldus@uke.uni-hamburg.de</p>