This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Myocardial infarction (MI)	CXC chemokine receptor 4 (CXCR4; NPY3R)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that CXCR4 antagonists could help treat MI. In post-MI mice, the CXCR4 antagonist Mozobil increased activation of bone marrow-derived endothelial progenitor cells (EPCs), leading to improved cardiac function and increased survival compared with saline control. Next steps include an investigator-run pilot trial of Mozobil in post-MI patients.</p> <p>Mozobil plerixafor (AMD3100), a CXCR4 antagonist from Genzyme Corp., is approved in the U.S. to mobilize hematopoietic stem cells in patients with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL) and multiple myeloma (MM). In the EU, the drug is approved in combination with G-CSF to increase mobilization of hematopoietic stem cells to the bloodstream for collection and subsequent autologous transplantation in patients with lymphoma or MM whose cells mobilize poorly.</p> <p>TaiGen Biotechnology Co. Ltd.'s TG-0054, a CXCR4 inhibitor, is in preclinical testing to treat MI.</p> <p>SciBX 3(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.727 Published online June 17, 2010</p>	Findings unpatented; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Jujo, K. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online May 31, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0914248107</p> <p>Contact: Douglas W. Losordo, Northwestern University, Chicago, Ill. e-mail: d-losordo@northwestern.edu</p>