This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Cardiovascular disease	Purinergic receptor P2Y G protein-coupled 12 (P2RY12; P2Y12)	<p>A study in rats suggests vicagrel may help prevent blood clotting in Plavix-resistant patients. People carrying specific polymorphisms in cytochrome P450 2C19 (CYP2C19) do not metabolize Plavix clopidogrel effectively. In rats, vicagrel, an ester prodrug of a clopidogrel intermediate that does not require CYP2C19 activation, decreased ADP-induced platelet aggregation more potently than Plavix and with potency similar to that of Effient prasugrel. Next steps include additional preclinical testing of vicagrel in preparation for filing an IND in China.</p> <p>Sanofi and Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. market the P2Y12 antagonist Plavix clopidogrel for a variety of cardiovascular indications.</p> <p>Daiichi Sankyo Co. Ltd. and Eli Lilly and Co. market the P2Y12 antagonist Effient for acute coronary syndrome.</p> <p>SciBX 5(16); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.414 Published online April 19, 2012</p>	Patent applications filed; available for licensing	<p>Shan, J. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online March 19, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm300038c</p> <p>Contact: Hongbin Sun, China Pharmaceutical University, Nanjing, China e-mail: hbsun2000@yahoo.com</p>