This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Myocardial infarction (MI)	Myosin heavy chain 6 cardiac muscle- α (MYH6)	<p>Mouse studies suggest blocking autoimmune activity against cardiac myosin could help reduce damage following MI in patients with type 1 diabetes. In nonobese diabetic (NOD) mice, experimentally induced MI led to production of autoantibodies against cardiac myosin that caused cardiac tissue destruction and inflammation. Tolerance to Myh6 prevented the increase in symptom severity following MI. In post-MI patients, autoantibodies against cardiac antigens were identified in 15 of 18 patients with type 1 diabetes but in only 3 of 20 patients with type 2 diabetes. Next steps include developing antigen-specific immunotherapeutics for delivery after heart attack.</p> <p>SciBX 5(27); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.703 Published online July 12, 2012</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Gottumukkala, R.V.S.R.K. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online June 13, 2012; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3003551</p> <p>Contact: Myra A. Lipes, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: myra.lipes@joslin.harvard.edu</p>