This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Organ damage	Transforming growth factor- β receptor II (TGF β -RII; TGFBR2)	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest a TGFBR2 inhibitor could help regenerate damaged cardiac tissue. A screen of small molecules in a mouse embryonic stem cell (ESC) differentiation assay identified a TGFBR2 inhibitor that induced differentiation of mesoderm to cardiomyocytes. In human ESCs, adding the inhibitor to an established differentiation protocol for generating cardiomyocytes increased yield to 60% from 30% for vehicle. Ongoing work includes optimizing the inhibitor for testing in animal models of cardiac injury. <i>SciBX</i> 5(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.838 Published online Aug. 16, 2012	Patented by the Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute, the Human BioMolecular Research Institute and ChemRegen Inc.; available for licensing or partnering	Willems, E. <i>et al. Cell Stem Cell</i> ; published online Aug. 3, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.stem.2012.04.025 Contact: Mark Mercola, Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: mmercola@sanfordburnham.org Contact: Erik Willems, same affiliation as above e-mail: ewillems@sanfordburnham.org