This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Atherosclerosis	Acyl-CoA synthetase long- chain family member 1 (ACSL1)	Studies in mice and in patient samples suggest inhibiting ACSL1 could help prevent diabetes-associated atherosclerosis. Macrophages from two mouse models of type 1 diabetes and monocytes from patients with type 1 diabetes had higher levels of ACSL1 mRNA than cells from nondiabetic controls. In a mouse model of diabetes, myeloid-specific ACSL1 deficiency decreased aortic macrophage accumulation and atherosclerotic lesion severity compared with normal expression of ACSL1. Next steps could include cell-based screening and developing molecules that inhibit ACSL1.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Kanter, J.E. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Jan. 17, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1111600109 Contact: Karin E. Bornfeldt, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: bornf@uw.edu
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