This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Ischemia/ reperfusion injury	Adenosine A _{2B} receptor (ADORA _{2B})	<p>Patient sample and mouse studies suggest agonizing ADORA_{2B} could help prevent ischemia and reperfusion injury during liver transplant. In liver biopsies obtained from patients undergoing liver transplant, ADORA_{2B} levels were higher after ischemia and reperfusion. In mice undergoing liver ischemia and reperfusion, pretreatment with an ADORA_{2B} agonist decreased liver injury and inflammation compared with vehicle pretreatment. Next steps include identifying alternative ADORA_{2B} agonists for human disease.</p> <p>Gilead Sciences Inc. and Astellas Pharma Inc., market the ADORA_{2A} agonist Lexiscan regadenoson as a cardiovascular imaging agent. Adenosine Therapeutics LLC's ADORA_{2A} agonist, Stedivaze apadenoson, is in Phase III testing as a cardiovascular imaging agent.</p> <p>Swedish Orphan Biovitrum AB's BVT.115959, an ADORA_{2A} agonist, is in Phase II to treat pain.</p> <p>SciBX 6(30); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.793 Published online Aug. 8, 2013</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Zimmerman, M.A. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online June 28, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1221733110</p> <p>Contact: Holger K. Eltzschig, University of Colorado Denver, Aurora, Colo. e-mail: holger.eltzschig@ucdenver.edu</p>