This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Arrhythmia	Purkinje cell protein 4 (PCP4)	<p>Mouse studies suggest agonizing PCP4 could help treat arrhythmia. In mice, <i>Pcp4</i> knockout led to increased markers of cardiac arrhythmogenesis, such as abnormal electrophysiology and calcium dynamics, compared with wild-type <i>Pcp4</i> expression. In mouse models of acquired cardiomyopathy and stimulant-induced cardiac excitability, <i>Pcp4</i> knockout increased heartbeat irregularities compared with normal <i>Pcp4</i> expression. Ongoing work includes screening patients with idiopathic arrhythmic syndromes for <i>PCP4</i> mutations and measuring PCP4 levels in diseased cardiac tissue.</p> <p>SciBX 7(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1234 Published online Oct. 30, 2014</p>	Unpatented; available for partnering	<p>Kim, E.E. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Oct. 8, 2014; doi:10.1172/JCI77495</p> <p>Contact: Glenn I. Fishman, New York University School of Medicine, New York, N.Y. e-mail: glenn.fishman@nyumc.org</p>