This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Ischemia/ reperfusion injury	p53	<p>Mouse studies suggest activating p53 in cardiac fibroblasts could help treat ischemia/reperfusion injury. In a mouse model of ischemic cardiac injury, <i>p53</i> knockout inhibited transition of cardiac fibroblasts into endothelial cells, decreased capillary density at the injury site and reduced cardiac function compared with mice that expressed <i>p53</i>. In this model, a p53 activator promoted the transition of cardiac fibroblasts into endothelial cells and resulted in increased vessel density and better cardiac function compared with saline control. Next steps include evaluating p53 activation in additional animal models of cardiac injury.</p> <p>SciBX 7(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1290 Published online Nov. 13, 2014</p>	Provisional patent application filed; unavailable for licensing	<p>Ubil, E. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Oct. 15, 2014; doi:10.1038/nature13839 Contact: Arjun Deb, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: adeb@mednet.ucla.edu</p>