

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cardiovascular disease</b>				
Erectile dysfunction (ED); hypertension	Phosphodiesterase-5 (PDE-5)	<p>An SAR study identified a class of vasodilators that may be useful for treating ED and hypertension. An <i>in vitro</i> vasodilation assay with a blood vessel strip showed that one member from this class had efficacy comparable to that of Cialis tadalafil. A similar assay on an aortic strip showed that the vasodilation activity of three of the compounds was dose-dependent. Researchers did not disclose next steps.</p> <p>Cialis tadalafil is marketed by Eli Lilly and Co. to treat ED.</p> <p>Other marketed PDE-5 inhibitors for ED include Viagra sildenafil from Pfizer Inc., Levitra vardenafil from Bayer AG and GlaxoSmithKline plc and Zydene udenafil from Dong-A Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd.</p>	Molecules patented; available for licensing through Shiqi Peng	<p>Liu, J. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online July 11, 2008; doi:10.1021/jm800249j</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Shiqi Peng, Capital Medical University, Beijing, China e-mail: <a href="mailto:sqpeng@mail.bjmu.edu.cn">sqpeng@mail.bjmu.edu.cn</a></p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Ming Zhao, same affiliation as above e-mail: <a href="mailto:mingzhao@mail.bjmu.edu.cn">mingzhao@mail.bjmu.edu.cn</a></p>