

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Myocardial infarction (MI)	Not applicable	<p>A synthetic cardiac tissue patch could be useful for improving outcomes after myocardial infarction (MI). In rats, patches containing cardiomyocytes, human umbilical vein endothelial cells (HUVECs) and neonatal human dermal fibroblasts attached to the heart after one week and formed viable human myocardium. The patches could be paced with electrical stimuli at rates equivalent to 120 beats per minute, which suggests they could keep up with the adult human myocardium that beats about 70 times per minute. Next steps could include evaluating whether the patches produce functional improvement in animal models of post-MI recovery.</p> <p>SciBX 2(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1436 Published online Oct. 1, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Stevens, K.R. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Sept. 14, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0908381106 Contact: C.E. Murry, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: murry@u.washington.edu</p>