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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hematology				
Blood clots; thrombosis; stroke	ADAM metallopeptidase with thrombospondin type 1 motif 18 (ADAMTS18)	Studies in mice suggest that a C-terminal fragment of ADAMTS18 may be useful for treating blood clots, thrombosis and stroke. In a mouse model of carotid artery platelet thrombus formation, a recombinant fragment of ADAMTS18 produced threefold greater carotid artery blood flow than that seen using an inactive ADAMTS18 fragment, a scrambled fragment or saline. In a mouse model of stroke, the fragment decreased infarct size compared with an inactive fragment or saline. Next steps include toxicity studies to explore the therapeutic potential of the ADAMTS18 fragment. *SciBX* **2**(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.316 **Published online Feb. 26, 2009**	Patent application filed covering agents that dissolve arterial thrombi; available for licensing from the New York University School of Medicine Office of Industrial Liaison	Li, Z. *et al. Blood*; published online Feb. 13, 2009; doi:10.1182/blood-2008-07-170571 **Contact:** Simon Karpatkin, New York University School of Medicine, New York, N.Y. e-mail: simon.karpatkin@med.nyu.edu