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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Myocardial infarction (MI)	Alcohol dehydrogenase 5 (ADH5; GSNOR)	Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting ADH5 could be useful for protecting against myocardial injury and preserving cardiac function. In mice, deletion of *adh5* decreased myocardial infarct size, preserved ventricular systolic and diastolic function and maintained tissue oxygenation following acute coronary artery ligation compared with what was seen in wild-type mice. *Adh5* deletion also triggered an increase in myocardial capillary density and *S*-nitrosylation of hypoxia-inducible factor 1 (Hif1A; Hif1), which promotes angiogenesis. Next steps include developing ADH5 inhibitors to prevent protein denitrosylation and designing HIF1A *S*-nitrosylating compounds to induce angiogenesis. ***SciBX*** **2(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.533** **Published online April 2, 2009**	Patent application filed; unlicensed	Lima, B. *et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*; published online March 23, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0901043106 **Contact:** Howard A. Rockman, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C. e-mail: h.rockman@duke.edu