This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Cardiovascular disease	Cyclophilin A (CYPA; peptidylprolyl isomerase A; PPIA)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting CYPA could be useful for protecting against abdominal aortic aneurysm and other cardiovascular diseases. CYPA is expressed in vascular smooth muscle cells, where it is secreted in response to reactive oxygen species and promotes inflammation. Mice lacking Cypa were protected from angiotensin 2 (Ang2)-induced abdominal aortic aneurysm formation compared with wild-type mice. Mice lacking Cypa also had less inflammatory cytokine expression, elastic lamina degradation and aortic expansion than controls. Next steps include identifying CYPA's receptor and the mechanism by which CYPA activates the receptor.</p> <p>SciBX 2(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.825 Published online May 21, 2009</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Satoh, K. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online May 10, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.1958</p> <p>Contact: Bradford C. Berk, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, Rochester, N.Y. e-mail: bradford_berk@urmc.rochester.edu</p>