This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Lymphoedema	Forkhead box C2 (FOXC2; MFH-1); nuclear factor of activated T-cells cytoplasmic calcineurin-dependent 1 (NFATc1)	<p>Studies in mice and in cell culture suggest that agonizing the transcription factors FOXC2 and NFATc1 could be useful for treating lymphoedema, a lymphatic disorder associated with cancer surgery. In mice lacking <i>Foxc2</i> or <i>Nfatc1</i>, lymphatic vessels developed abnormally compared with those of wild-type mice. In cultured lymphatic endothelial cells, those treated with the prolymphangiogenic VEGF had greater NFATc1 activity than untreated controls. Next steps include testing the effect of FOXC2 and NFATc1 overexpression in preclinical models of lymphoedema.</p> <p>Lx Therapies Ltd. has adenovirus-expressed VEGFC in preclinical development to treat lymphoedema.</p> <p>SciBX 2(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.875 Published online May 28, 2009</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Norrmén, C. <i>et al. J. Cell Biol.</i>; published online April 27, 2009; doi:10.1083/jcb.200901104</p> <p>Contact: Tatiana V. Petrova, University of Lausanne, Epalinges, Switzerland e-mail: tatiana.petrova@unil.ch</p>