

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Ischemia; reperfusion injury	VEGF; VEGF receptor 2 (KDR/Flk-1; VEGFR-2)	Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting heparan sulfate could help treat ischemia. Heparan sulfate mediates the interaction between VEGF and VEGFR-2. In a mouse model of vascular permeability, intradermal injection of VEGF plus the generic heparan sulfate inhibitors surfen or protamine decreased vascular hyperpermeability compared with injection of VEGF alone. Next steps could include developing additional small molecule inhibitors of heparan sulfate assembly.	Patent and licensing information undisclosed	Xu, D. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online Oct. 25, 2010; doi:10.1074/jbc.M110.177006 Contact: Jeffrey D. Esko, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: jesko@ucsd.edu
<p>SciBX 3(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1382 Published online Dec. 2, 2010</p>				