

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cardiovascular disease</b>				
Atherosclerosis	NLR family pyrin domain containing 3 (NLRP3; NALP3)	A study in mice suggests that antagonizing the NLRP3 inflammasome could help treat atherosclerosis. In mice fed a high-cholesterol diet, bone marrow reconstitution using NLRP3-deficient cells increased resistance to the development of atherosclerosis compared with that seen upon bone marrow reconstitution using wild-type cells. Next steps include identifying and testing small molecule inflammasome inhibitors in mouse models of atherosclerosis.	Patent pending; available for licensing	Duewell, P. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online April 29, 2010 doi:10.1038/nature08938 <b>Contact:</b> Eicke Latz, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts e-mail: <a href="mailto:eicke.latz@uni-bonn.de">eicke.latz@uni-bonn.de</a> or <a href="mailto:eicke.latz@umassmed.edu">eicke.latz@umassmed.edu</a>
		<b>SciBX 3(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.552</b> Published online May 6, 2010		