

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Thrombosis	Urokinase-type plasminogen activator (PLAU; uPA); thrombin (F2)	<p>Studies in mouse samples and in mice suggest that a recombinant form of uPA could help prevent blood clots. In mouse red blood cells preincubated with the protein, thrombin-induced blood clots were dissolved within 15–30 minutes, whereas clots in cells not preincubated were not. In mouse models of carotid artery and jugular venous thromboses, the protein induced a recovery of up to 80% of normal blood flow in the affected vessel, compared with recovery of <20% in untreated controls. Ongoing work includes testing the protein in animal models of cerebral and peripheral thromboses.</p> <p>SciBX 3(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.553 Published online May 6, 2010</p>	Patented by the University of Pennsylvania; available for licensing	<p>Zaitsev, S. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online April 21, 2010; doi:10.1182/blood-2010-01-261610 Contact: Vladimir R. Muzykantov, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: muzykant@mail.med.upenn.edu</p>