

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Renal disease				
Renal damage	DNA methyltransferase 1 (DMNT1); RAS protein activator like 1 (RASAL1)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that blocking <i>RASAL1</i> methylation could help prevent kidney fibrosis. Mice with low levels of <i>Rasal1</i> methylation had less kidney fibrosis than wild-type animals with normal <i>Rasal1</i> methylation levels. Next steps could include developing compounds that block RASAL1 methylation and evaluating their effects in models of kidney fibrosis.</p> <p>SciBX 3(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.567 Published online May 6, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Bechtel, W. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online April 25, 2010; doi:10.1038/nm.2135</p> <p>Contact: Michael Zeisberg, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: mzeisber@bidmc.harvard.edu</p>