

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Coronary artery disease (CAD)	Apolipoprotein A-V (APOA5)	<p>A study in humans suggests that lowering serum triglycerides could be useful for preventing CAD. Combined analysis of 39 prospective studies of more than 73,000 individuals showed that higher triglyceride levels correlated with a defective variant of APOA5, a protein involved in regulating the levels of triglyceride-rich very low-density lipoprotein (VLDL). In another analysis of about 56,000 CAD cases and controls, presence of the defective <i>APOA5</i> gene resulted in an 18% increase in CAD risk. Next steps include prospective trials of triglyceride-lowering agents to reduce CAD risk.</p> <p>At least seven companies have products in development to treat hypertriglyceridemia associated with metabolic disorders.</p> <p>SciBX 3(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.642 Published online May 27, 2010</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Sarwar, N. <i>et al. Lancet</i>; published online May 8, 2010; doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(10)60545-4 Contact: Nadeem Sarwar, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, U.K. e-mail: nadeem.sarwar@phpc.cam.ac.uk</p>