This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Cardiomyopathy	Ryanodine receptor 2 (RyR2)	Mouse studies suggest that inhibiting protein kinase A (PKA)-mediated phosphorylation of RyR2 could help treat cardiomyopathy associated with Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD). In the *mdx* mouse model of DMD, genetic inactivation of the Pka phosphorylation site on Ryr2 reduced age-dependent heart failure compared with that seen in normal *mdx* mice. In *mdx* mice with the genetic inactivation undergoing pressure-induced cardiac mechanical stress, mortality was lower and cardiac contractility was better than those in normal *mdx* mice. Next steps could include developing a therapeutic to block the phosphorylation site. ***SciBX*** **3(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.859** **Published online July 22, 2010**	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Sarma, S. *et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*; published online July 6, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1004509107 **Contact:** Xander H.T. Wehrens, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas e-mail: wehrens@bcm.edu