

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Heart failure	Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 4E binding protein 1 (EIF4EBP1); mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR; FRAP; RAFT1)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that inhibiting EIF4EBP1 could help treat heart failure. In a cardiac-specific <i>mtor</i> knockout mouse, as compared with wild-type mice, cardiac pressure overload in the presence of increased levels of Eif4ebp1 led to decreased heart function and worse survival.</p> <p>Also in mice, <i>mtor-Eif4ebp1</i> double knockout increased survival and improved cardiac function compared with <i>mTOR</i> knockout or wild-type expression of both. Next steps include identifying inhibitors of EIF4EBP1 and investigating their effects in preclinical models of heart failure.</p>	Unpatented; mouse model available for licensing	<p>Zhang, D. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online July 19, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI43008</p> <p>Contact: Gianluigi Condorelli, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: gcondorelli@ucsd.edu</p>
		<p>SciBX 3(30); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.921 Published online Aug. 5, 2010</p>		