This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Atherosclerosis	MicroRNA-33a (miR-33a); miR-33b	<p>Primate studies suggest antagonizing miR-33a and miR-33b could help treat atherosclerosis. In African green monkeys, an antisense miRNA inhibiting both miR-33a and miR-33b increased atheroprotective high-density lipoprotein (HDL) and decreased very low-density lipoprotein (VLDL) compared with mismatched control miRNA. Next steps include additional preclinical testing to understand how miR-33a and miR-33b control cholesterol levels.</p> <p>Regulus Therapeutics Inc. has anti-miRNA oligonucleotides targeting miR-33 in preclinical testing to treat atherosclerosis.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 4(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1177 Published online Oct. 27, 2011</p>	Patent application filed; licensed to Regulus Therapeutics; unavailable for licensing	<p>Rayner, K.J. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Oct. 19, 2011; doi:10.1038/nature10486</p> <p>Contact: Kathryn J. Moore, New York University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: kathryn.moore@nyumc.org</p>