This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Atherosclerosis	Lysophosphatidic acid receptor 1 (LPAR1; EDG2; LPA1); LPAR3 (EDG7; LPA3)	Mouse studies suggest antagonizing LPAR1 and LPAR3 could help treat atherosclerosis. In a mouse model of atherosclerosis, an inhibitor of LPAR1 and LPAR3 lowered disease progression compared with vehicle. Next steps include identifying and testing inhibitors that are specific for one of the receptors. Amira Pharmaceuticals Inc.'s oral LPA1 antagonist, AM152, is in Phase I testing for pulmonary fibrosis.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Zhou, Z. <i>et al. Cell Metab.</i> ; published online May 4, 2011; doi:10.1016/j.cmet.2011.02.016 Contact: Andreas Schober, RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany e-mail: aschober@ukaachen.de
<i>SciBX</i> 4(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.571 Published online May 19, 2011				