This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Atherosclerosis	MicroRNA-33 (miR-33)	Mouse studies suggest inhibiting miR-33 could help treat atherosclerosis. In *low-density lipoprotein receptor* (*Ldlr*)-deficient mice with atherosclerotic plaques, anti-miR-33 miRNA increased levels of protective high-density lipoprotein cholesterol and decreased inflammatory gene expression, plaque size and lipid content compared with control miRNA. Next steps include validating the findings in additional preclinical models such as nonhuman primates. Regulus Therapeutics Inc. has an anti-miR-33 compound in preclinical testing for cardiovascular indications. *SciBX* 4(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.683 Published online June 16, 2011	Patent application filed for use of miR-33 inhibitors to treat atherosclerosis and metabolic diseases; licensed by Regulus Therapeutics	Rayner, K.J. *et al. J. Clin. Invest.*; published online June 6, 2011; doi:10.1172/JCI57275 **Contact:** Kathryn J. Moore, New York University School of Medicine, New York, N.Y. e-mail: Kathryn.moore@nyumc.org