

This week in therapeutics

| Indication | Target/marker/pathway | Summary | Licensing status | Publication and contact information |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| Cardiovascular disease | | | | |
| Ischemia/ reperfusion injury | Fibroblast growth factor 2 (FGF2); syndecan 4 (SDC4) | Rat studies suggest delivering FGF2 together with SDC4-containing liposomes could help treat ischemia. In a rat model of hind limb ischemia, FGF2 plus SDC4-containing liposomes resulted in near-complete resolution of ischemia within 7 days, whereas FGF2 alone failed to resolve ischemia at day 16. In rats, FGF2 plus the liposomes increased arteriole density sevenfold and capillary density twofold compared with FGF2 alone. Next steps include optimizing a delivery system for the SDC4-containing liposomes and scaling up the manufacturing process. | Patent application filed; available for licensing from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Licensing Office | Jang, E. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Jan. 17, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1117885109 Contact: Aaron B. Baker, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas e-mail: abbaker1@gmail.com |
| <p><i>SciBX</i> 5(5); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.123 Published online Feb. 2, 2012</p> | | | | |