

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Cardiovascular disease	Hypoxia-inducible factor 1 α (HIF1A; HIF1 α); transforming growth factor- β 1 (TGFB1)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting TGFB1 could help protect against heart failure. Mice with inducible <i>Hif1a</i> knockout in endothelial cells and cardiomyocytes had greater myocardial hypertrophy, cell death and <i>Tgfb1</i> signaling from cardiac pressure overload than wild-type mice. In the mice with inducible <i>Hif1a</i> knockout, an anti-TGFB1 antibody protected against some of the pathological effects of cardiac pressure overload, whereas vehicle did not. Next steps could include testing TGFB1 inhibition in additional models. At least six companies have TGFB1 inhibitors in clinical and preclinical testing to treat cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 5(12); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.307 Published online March 22, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Wei, H. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online March 8, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1202081109 Contact: Gregg L. Semenza, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Md. e-mail: gsemenza@jhmi.edu</p>