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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Renal disease				
Nephropathy	Uromodulin (UMOD; THP)	Rat studies suggest antagonizing UMOD binding to immunoglobulin light chain could be useful for treating nephropathy associated with multiple myeloma. Prior studies showed that in patients with multiple myeloma, binding of immunoglobulin light chain to UMOD in the kidney leads to nephropathy. *In vitro*, a cyclic peptide mimicking the UMOD-binding region of immunoglobulin light chain blocked the peptide–light chain interaction. In a rat model of immunoglobulin light chain–induced nephropathy, i.v. injection of this competitive peptide prevented nephropathy, whereas injection of a noncompetitive peptide had no effect. Next steps include toxicological and pharmacodynamic studies of the peptide.	Patent pending; available for licensing	Ying, W.-Z. *et al. J. Clin. Invest.*; published online April 9, 2012; doi:10.1172/JCI46490 **Contact:** Paul W. Sanders, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Ala. e-mail: psanders@uab.edu

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