This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Ischemia/ reperfusion injury	Protein tyrosine phosphatase non- receptor type 5 (PTPN5; STEP); p38 mitogen- activated protein kinase (p38 MAPK; MAPK14)	Rat studies identified a degradation-resistant STEP peptide that could help treat ischemia/reperfusion injury. In rats, transient ischemia activated p38 MAPK and initially increased levels of the p38 inhibitor STEP compared with no ischemia, although STEP was eventually degraded. In the rat model, i.v. injection of a cell-permeable, degradation-resistant TAT-STEP-c-Myc (MYC) peptide decreased both p38 MAPK activation and brain damage compared with vehicle injection. Next steps include testing the effects of the peptide on long-term recovery and in stroke models with significant comorbidities. SciBX 6(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1350 Published online Dec. 12, 2013	Patent application filed; licensed by Tyrosine Pharma	Deb, I. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i> ; published online Nov. 6, 2013; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.2346-12.2013 Contact: Surojit Paul, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, N.M. e-mail: spaul@salud.unm.edu