

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Hypertension; renal disease	Uromodulin (UMOD; THP); solute carrier family 12 potassium-chloride transporter member 1 (SLC12A1; NKCC2)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting UMOD could help treat hypertension and chronic kidney disease. In nephrectomy samples from patients homozygous for a <i>UMOD</i> promoter region risk allele that is associated with hypertension and chronic kidney disease risk, <i>UMOD</i> expression was twofold higher than that in samples from patients homozygous for a protective allele. In mice, transgenic overexpression of <i>Umod</i> caused salt-sensitive hypertension and renal damage and increased activity of the <i>Nkcc2</i> sodium transporter compared with wild-type <i>Umod</i> expression. In the mice, an NKCC2 inhibitor decreased blood pressure compared with no treatment. Next steps could include developing UMOD inhibitors.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Trudu, M. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i> ; published online Nov. 3, 2013; doi:10.1038/nm.3384 Contact: Luca Rampoldi, San Raffaele Scientific Institute, Milan, Italy e-mail: rampoldi.luca@hsr.it Contact: Olivier Devuyst, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland e-mail: olivier.devuyst@uzh.ch
		SciBX 6(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1401 Published online Dec. 19, 2013		