

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Hypertension	Not applicable	<p>Mouse studies suggest compounds that scavenge γ-ketoaldehydes (isoketals) could help treat hypertension. In patients with hypertension, levels of protein-isoketal adducts in plasma and monocytes were higher than those in healthy controls. In mouse models of hypertension, protein-isoketal adducts accumulated in dendritic cells (DC), thereby activating them and inducing their production of proinflammatory cytokines. In turn, the DC-secreted cytokines induced CD8⁺ T cells to produce proinflammatory cytokines associated with hypertension. In the mouse models, research compounds that scavenge isoketals decreased blood pressure compared with inactive control compounds. Next steps could include developing and testing new isoketal-scavenging compounds.</p> <p>SciBX 7(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1177 Published online Oct. 16, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Kirabo, A. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Sept. 17, 2014; doi:10.1172/JCI74084 Contact: David G. Harrison, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn. e-mail: david.g.harrison@vanderbilt.edu</p>