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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Myocardial infarction (MI)	*Stem cell factor* (*SCF*; *c-Kit ligand*; *KITLG*)	Porcine studies suggest *SCF* gene therapy could help treat MI. Previous studies in rodent models of MI showed that expressing human *SCF* in the heart contributed to cardiac repair and survival. In pig models of MI, myocardial injection of an adenoviral vector encoding human *SCF* increased ejection fraction, stroke volume and other measures of left ventricular cardiac function compared with injection of an adenoviral vector encoding a non–cardiac-related control protein. In this model, the adenoviral vector encoding human *SCF* also decreased infarct zone size at three months post-injection compared with the control vector. Ongoing work by Celladon Corp. includes evaluating cardiac delivery of *SCF* with an adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector or as *SCF* mRNA. *SciBX* 7(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1319 Published online Nov. 20, 2014	Patented by Celladon; unavailable for licensing	Ishikawa, K. *et al. Circ. Heart Fail.*; published online Oct. 23, 2014; doi:10.1161/circheartfailure.114.001711 **Contact:** Kiyotake Ishikawa, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, N.Y. e-mail: kiyotake.ishikawa@mssm.edu