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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Atherosclerosis	Sortilin 1 (SORT1)	Mouse studies suggest inhibiting SORT1 in macrophages and T cells could help treat atherosclerosis. In a mouse model of the disease, *Sort1* knockout decreased early and late atherosclerosis lesions compared with wild-type *Sort1* expression without altering plasma cholesterol levels. In macrophages and T helper type 1 (Th1) cells from normal mice, *Sort1* knockout decreased secretion of the proatherosclerotic factors Il-6 and interferon-γ (Ifng; Ifn-γ), respectively, compared with wild-type *Sort1* expression. In lethally irradiated mouse models of atherosclerosis, transplantation of Sort1-deficient bone marrow decreased markers of atherosclerosis compared with transplantation of Sort1-expressing bone marrow. Next steps could include developing and testing a SORT1 inhibitor. *SciBX* 7(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1406 Published online Dec. 18, 2014	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Mortensen, M.B. *et al. J. Clin. Immunol.*; published online Nov. 17, 2014; doi:10.1172/JCI76002 **Contact:** Jacob F. Bentzon, Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark e-mail: jben@clin.au.dk