SciBX
Science-Business eXchange

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Cardiovascular disease	c-jun N-terminal kinase (JNK); MAP kinase 1 (MAPK1; ERK-2); MAPK3 (ERK-1)	*In vitro* and rodent studies suggest ophiopogonin D could help prevent doxorubicin-induced cardiotoxicity. In rat heart–derived embryonic myocytes, pretreatment with *Ophiopogonin japonicas*–derived ophiopogonin D protected against doxorubicin-induced reactive oxygen species generation and autophagic cell death through inhibition of ERK1 and ERK2 and activation of JNK. In mice, ophiopogonin D treatment decreased doxorubicin-induced autophagy and prevented cardiac contractile dysfunction compared with doxorubicin treatment alone. Next steps could include testing the protective effects of ophiopogonin D in additional models of doxorubicin cardiotoxicity. *SciBX* 7(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1407 Published online Dec. 18, 2014	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Zhang, Y.-Y. *et al. J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.*; published online Nov. 5, 2014; doi:10.1124/jpet.114.219261 **Contact:** Zhao Zhang, Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing, China e-mail: zhangzhao@njnu.edu.cn