

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Various</b>				
Atherosclerosis; obesity	Inhibitor of $\kappa$ -light polypeptide gene enhancer in B cells kinase- $\beta$ (IKBKB; IKK2)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting IKBKB could help treat atherosclerosis. In a mouse model of atherosclerosis, knockout of <i>Ikkbb</i> in smooth muscle and pre-adipose cells decreased the size of atherosclerotic lesions and expression of proinflammatory genes within the lesions compared with no knockout. In mice, <i>Ikkbb</i> knockout also prevented high-fat diet-induced obesity and obesity-associated pathology including glucose intolerance and hyperlipidemia. Next steps include developing small molecules or biologics that inhibit IKBKB. Sanofi's IKBKB inhibitor, SAR113945, is in Phase II testing to treat osteoarthritis (OA). IMMD Inc. has the oral IKBKB inhibitor IMD-1041 in Phase II testing to treat chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and pulmonary fibrosis. EntreChem S.L. has the selective IKBKB inhibitor EC-70124 in preclinical development for cancer.</p> <p><b>SciBX 7(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.684</b>  <b>Published online June 12, 2014</b></p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Sui, Y. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online May 5, 2014;            doi:10.1084/jem.20131281  <b>Contact:</b> Changcheng Zhou,            University of Kentucky, Lexington, K.Y.            e-mail:  <a href="mailto:c.zhou@uky.edu">c.zhou@uky.edu</a></p>