

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Hypertension	Epoxide hydrolase	<p>Mouse studies identified a soluble epoxide hydrolase–dependent mechanism by which a Mediterranean diet protects against hypertension. Mediterranean diet components form nitro fatty acids, which inhibit soluble epoxide hydrolase. In mice expressing a mutant soluble epoxide hydrolase insensitive to nitro fatty acids, vasodilation induced by nitro fatty acids was impaired. In a mouse model of angiotensin II–induced hypertension, wild-type mice were protected against hypertension and cardiac hypertrophy by nitro fatty acids, but mice expressing mutant soluble epoxide hydrolases were not. In wild-type mouse hearts, gavage with Mediterranean dietary components inhibited soluble epoxide hydrolase activity. Next steps could include further defining the relationship between the extent of soluble epoxide hydrolase inhibition and lowering blood pressure.</p> <p>SciBX 7(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.707 Published online June 19, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Charles, R.L. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online May 19, 2014; doi:10.1073/pnas.1402965111 Contact: Philip Eaton, Kings College London, London, U.K. e-mail: philip.eaton@kcl.ac.uk</p>