This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Musculoskeletal disease				
Osteoporosis	Cell division cycle 42 (CDC42)	<p>A study in mice suggests that inhibiting CDC42 in osteoclasts could help treat osteoporosis. Compared with wild-type mice, animals with an osteoclast-specific <i>Cdc42</i> deficiency had reduced ovariectomy-induced bone loss ($p < 0.01$). In mice with <i>Cdc42</i> overexpression, bone mineral density was reduced compared with that in wild-type controls ($p < 0.05$). Next steps could include identifying CDC42 inhibitors and evaluating them in animal models of osteoporosis.</p> <p>SciBX 3(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.679 Published online June 3, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Ito, Y. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online May 24, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI39650</p> <p>Contact: F. Patrick Ross, Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, St. Louis, Mo. e-mail: rossf@hss.edu</p> <p>Contact: Haibo Zhao, same affiliation as above e-mail: hzhao@uams.edu</p>