This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Muscular atrophy; cachexia	Tumor necrosis factor receptor- associated factor 6 (TRAF6)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting TRAF6 could help prevent muscular atrophy and cachexia. In mouse models of muscle atrophy and cachexia, atrophying skeletal muscle showed significantly greater <i>Traf6</i> expression than nonatrophying muscle ($p < 0.01$). In mice, <i>Traf6</i> deficiency led to lower levels of denervation-induced muscle atrophy than functional <i>Traf6</i> expression ($p < 0.05$). Next steps could include identifying and evaluating a small molecule inhibitor of TRAF6 signaling in animal models of muscular atrophy.</p> <p>SciBX 4(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.114 Published online Jan. 27, 2011</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Paul, P.K. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Cell Biol.</i>; published online Dec. 27, 2010; doi:10.1083/jcb.201006098 Contact: Ashok Kumar, University of Louisville School of Medicine, Louisville, Ky. e-mail: ashok.kumar@louisville.edu</p>