This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Osteoarthritis	Filamin A (FLNA); core-binding factor β -subunit (CBFB; CBF β)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest the small molecule kartogenin could help treat osteoarthritis. Image-based high throughput screening of a small molecule library found that kartogenin promotes human chondrocyte differentiation. SAR studies showed that kartogenin increased chondrocyte formation by binding FLNA and disrupting the FLNA-CBF β interaction. In two mouse models of osteoarthritis, kartogenin increased cartilage repair or decreased osteoarthritis symptoms compared with vehicle. Next steps could include optimizing the potency of kartogenin. Novartis AG declined to comment on the status of this program.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Johnson, K. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online April 5, 2012; doi:10.1126/science.1215157 Contact: Peter G. Schultz, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: schultz@scripps.edu Contact: Kristen Johnson, Genomics Institute of the Novartis Research Foundation, San Diego, Calif. e-mail: kjohnson@gnf.org
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