This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Liver disease, pulmonary fibrosis	Integrin α_v (CD51)	<p>Studies in mice suggest a small molecule inhibitor of CD51 could help treat fibrosis. In mouse models of liver, lung and kidney fibrosis, <i>Cd51</i> knockout in myofibroblasts prevented fibrosis. In mouse models of fibrosis, a small molecule inhibitor of Cd51 decreased fibrosis progression in liver and lung compared with an inactive enantiomer. Next steps include identifying CD51 dimerization partners in profibrotic integrin complexes and assessing cellular and transcriptional changes resulting from CD51 inhibition.</p> <p>The CD51 inhibitor was developed by new company Antegrin Therapeutics LLC.</p> <p>SciBX 6(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1329 Published online Dec. 5, 2013</p>	<p>Patent application for CD51 inhibitor and related inhibitors filed by Antegrin Therapeutics; patent application filed by the University of California, San Francisco covering identification of CD51-containing integrins; available for licensing</p>	<p>Henderson, N.C. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Nov. 10, 2013; doi:10.1038/nm.3282 Contact: Dean Sheppard, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: dean.sheppard@ucsf.edu Contact: Neil C. Henderson, The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, U.K. e-mail: henderson@ed.ac.uk</p>