This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hematology				
Myeloproliferative disorder	Retinoic acid receptor (RAR)	<p>Mouse studies suggest RAR antagonists could help treat myelofibrosis. Mice with genetic mutations in the two receptor binding regions of nuclear receptor co-repressor 2 (NCOR2; SMRT) exhibited reduced radial bone growth and features of myelofibrosis including increased expression of fibrosis-inducing thrombopoietin (TPO) in bone marrow, which is normally repressed by the SMRT-RAR repressor complex. In irradiated mice transplanted with SMRT-mutant bone marrow that have the myelofibrosis phenotype, a RAR antagonist normalized TPO levels, bone integrity and fibrosis. Next steps could include testing RAR antagonists in additional mouse models of myeloproliferative disease.</p> <p>Io Therapeutics Inc. has the RAR antagonist IRX4310 in Phase I trials to treat neutropenia.</p> <p>SciBX 6(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1353 Published online Dec. 12, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Hong, S.-H. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Nov. 4, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1318974110</p> <p>Contact: Ronald M. Evans, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: evans@salk.edu</p>