This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hematology				
Anemia	Activin receptor-like kinase 3 (ALK3)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting the bone morphogenetic protein type I receptor ALK3 could help treat anemia. In mice, hepatocyte-specific <i>Alk3</i> knockout prevented decreases in serum iron levels, whereas hepatocyte-specific <i>Alk2</i> (<i>Acvr1</i>) knockout did not. Next steps could include testing specific ALK3 antagonists in models of anemia of chronic conditions. Acceleron Pharma Inc.'s ALK3 antagonist ACE-661 is in preclinical testing for osteoporosis and bone repair.</p> <p>SciBX 7(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.286 Published online March 13, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Mayeur, C. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Feb. 5, 2014; doi:10.1182/blood-2013-02-480095 Contact: Andrea U. Steinbicker, University Hospital Muenster, Muenster, Germany e-mail: andrea.steinbicker@ukmuenster.de</p>