This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hepatic disease				
Cirrhosis	Synoviolin (SYVN1; HRD1)	Studies in human samples and mice suggest inhibiting HRD1 could help treat liver cirrhosis. In tissue samples from patients with cirrhosis and in a mouse model of liver cirrhosis, levels of x-box binding protein 1 (XBP1) and HRD1, components of the unfolded protein response, were higher and levels of nuclear factor (erythroid-derived 2)-like 2 (NFE2L2; NRF2) were lower than those in samples from healthy controls. In the mouse model, an HRD1 inhibitor decreased cirrhosis compared with no treatment. Next steps include improving the potency of the HRD1 inhibitor. SciBX 7(14); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.403 Published online April 10, 2014	Patented; licensing status undisclosed	Wu, T. <i>et al. Genes Dev.</i>; published online March 17, 2014; doi:10.1101/gad.238246.114 Contact: Donna D. Zhang, The University of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz. e-mail: dzhang@pharmacy.arizona.edu Contact: Deyu Fang, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, Ill. e-mail: fangd@northwestern.edu