This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Musculoskeletal disease				
Muscular atrophy	Mammalian target of rapamycin complex 1 (mTORC1)	Cell culture and mouse studies suggest the tomato-derived natural product tomatidine could help treat muscular atrophy by increasing mTORC1 signaling. In cultured human cancer cells, tomatidine produced an mRNA signature that negatively correlated with that of muscular atrophy. In mice, tomatidine increased mTorc1 signaling, skeletal muscle fiber size and grip strength compared with no treatment. Next steps include developing tomatidine derivatives to treat age-related muscular atrophy.	Patent application filed; licensed to Emmyon Inc.; available for partnering	Dyle, M.C. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online April 9, 2014; doi:10.1074/jbc.M114.556241 Contact: Christopher M. Adams, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa e-mail: christopher-adams@uiowa.edu
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