This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Musculoskeletal disease				
Bone repair; osteoporosis	Arrestin $\beta 2$ (ARRB2; ARR $\beta 2$)	<p>A study in mice suggests that agonizing ARRB2 could help treat osteoporosis. In mice, activation of Arrb2 signaling increased trabecular bone volume compared with that using vehicle. Also in mice, an ARRB2 agonist did not increase the number of osteoclasts on the bone surface and thus avoided a potential increase in unwanted bone resorption. Next steps include screening for additional agonists for clinical testing.</p> <p>SciBX 2(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1512 Published online Oct. 15, 2009</p>	<p>Multiple patent applications filed covering use in diseases characterized by insufficient bone formation, such as osteoporosis; available for licensing from the Medical University of South Carolina Foundation for Research Development and the Duke University Office of Licensing & Ventures</p> <p>Contact: Ryan Fiorini, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, S.C. e-mail: fiorinir@musc.edu</p> <p>Contact: Rose Ritts, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, N.C. e-mail: rose.ritt@duke.edu</p>	<p>Gesty-Palmer, D. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Oct. 7, 2009; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3000071</p> <p>Contact: Robert J. Lefkowitz, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, N.C. e-mail: lefko001@receptor-biol.duke.edu</p> <p>Contact: Diane Gesty-Palmer, same affiliation as above e-mail: gesty001@mc.duke.edu</p> <p>Contact: Louis M. Luttrell, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, S.C. e-mail: luttrell@musc.edu</p>