

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Musculoskeletal disease				
Bone repair; osteoporosis	Leukotriene B4 receptor (LTB4R; BLT1)	A study in mice suggests that inhibiting BLT1 signaling could help prevent bone loss. In <i>Blt1</i> -deficient mice, ovariectomy- and lipopolysaccharide-induced bone loss was significantly reduced compared with that in wild-type controls ($p < 0.01$). The <i>Blt1</i> -deficient mice also showed significant reductions in calcium resorption compared with controls ($p < 0.05$). Next steps could include evaluating BLT1 antagonists in animal models of bone loss.	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Hikiji, H. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Nov. 23, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0905209106 Contact: Satoshi Ishii, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: mame@m.u-tokyo.ac.jp
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