

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Autoimmune disease</b>				
Arthritis	Parathyroid hormone receptor (PTHr)	<p>Patient samples and mouse studies suggest recombinant human parathyroid hormone (PTH) could help treat osteoarthritis (OA). In a mouse model of injury-induced knee arthritis, the PTHr agonist Forteo teriparatide inhibited cartilage degeneration when administered early after injury and induced cartilage regeneration when administered eight weeks after injury, whereas saline did not. The researchers are preparing for clinical trials in OA. Eli Lilly and Co. markets Forteo to treat osteoporosis.</p> <p>NPS Pharmaceuticals Inc. and partner Nycomed market Preos, also known as Preotact, a recombinant PTH, to treat osteoporosis. Five companies have PTHr agonists in Phase I to Phase III trials for osteoporosis.</p> <p><b>SciBX 4(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1084</b>  <b>Published online Oct. 6, 2011</b></p>	Provisional patent application filed in U.S. for protecting and repairing cartilage and musculoskeletal soft tissues; available for licensing from the University of Rochester	<p>Sampson, E.R. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Sept. 21, 2011; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3002214</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Michael J. Zuscik, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, N.Y.  e-mail: <a href="mailto:michael_zuscik@urmc.rochester.edu">michael_zuscik@urmc.rochester.edu</a></p>