

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Musculoskeletal disease</b>				
Osteoporosis	Semaphorin 4D (SEMA4D)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting SEMA4D could help treat osteoporosis. In <i>Sema4D</i><sup>-/-</sup> mice, bone volume and trabecular thickness were greater than those in wild-type mice. In a mouse model of postmenopausal osteoporosis, an antibody against Sema4D protected against bone loss compared with saline control. Next steps include creating a specific anti-SEMA4D antibody for clinical trials.</p> <p>Vaccinex Inc's VX15, an anti-SEMA4D antibody, is in Phase I testing to treat cancer and in preclinical testing for multiple sclerosis (MS).</p> <p><b>SciBX 4(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1214</b>  <b>Published online Nov. 3, 2011</b></p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Negishi-Koga, T. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Oct. 23, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2489</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Hiroshi Takayanagi, Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Tokyo, Japan            e-mail: <a href="mailto:taka.csi@tmd.ac.jp">taka.csi@tmd.ac.jp</a></p>