

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Other				
Hearing loss	Transmembrane channel-like-1 (TMC1); TMC2	<p>Mouse studies suggest increasing <i>TMC1</i> or <i>TMC2</i> expression in patients with hearing loss caused by <i>TMC1</i> mutations could help restore hearing. In mice, <i>Tmc1</i> knockout caused deafness, whereas <i>Tmc2</i> knockout did not. In deaf mice lacking both <i>Tmc1</i> and <i>Tmc2</i>, adenovirus-mediated exogenous expression of either transmembrane channel rescued the hair cell mechanotransduction compared with what was seen using an adenoviral vector control. Next steps include identifying therapeutics that interact with TMC proteins to rescue their function.</p> <p>SciBX 4(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1336 Published online Dec. 8, 2011</p>	Diagnostic uses and composition of TMCs patented in the US and Australia; available for licensing	<p>Kawashima, Y. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Nov. 21, 2011; doi:10.1172/JCI60405</p> <p>Contact: Andrew J. Griffith, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: griffita@nidcd.nih.gov</p> <p>Contact: Jeffrey R. Holt, Children's Hospital Boston, Boston, Mass. e-mail: jeffrey.holt@childrens.harvard.edu</p>