

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Musculoskeletal disease				
Muscular atrophy	Not applicable	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest ursolic acid could help treat skeletal muscle atrophy. In mice with fasting or denervation-induced skeletal muscle atrophy, ursolic acid increased skeletal muscle mass compared with vehicle control. Next steps include studying both nutraceutical and pharmacological approaches based on the results. SciBX 4(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.715 Published online June 23, 2011	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Kunkel, S.D. <i>et al. Cell Metab.</i> ; published online June 8, 2011; doi:10.1016/j.cmet.2011.03.020 Contact: Christopher M. Adams, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa e-mail: christopher-adams@uiowa.edu