

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Musculoskeletal disease				
Musculoskeletal disease	C-type natriuretic peptide (CNP; NPPC); fibroblast growth factor receptor 3 (FGFR3; CD333)	<i>Ex vivo</i> and mouse studies suggest a CNP analog that antagonizes FGFR3 could help treat achondroplasia, the most common form of dwarfism. In femurs from a mouse model of achondroplasia with a gain-of-function mutation in FGFR3, the CNP analog increased bone length compared with vehicle. In that mouse model, subcutaneous injection of the CNP analog beginning at seven days of age led to increased bone length compared with vehicle injection. In those mice, the CNP injections also corrected skull and growth plate defects. Next steps could include testing the approach in additional models of achondroplasia.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Lorget, F. <i>et al. Am. J. Hum. Genet.</i> ; published online Nov. 29, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.ajhg.2012.10.014 Contact: Laurence Legeai-Mallet, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM), Paris, France e-mail: laurence.legeai-mallet@inserm.fr
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