

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Musculoskeletal disease				
Muscular dystrophy	MicroRNA-21 (miR-21)	<p>Patient sample and mouse studies suggest inhibiting miR-21 could help treat muscular dystrophy. In muscle biopsies from patients with Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD), collagen and miR-21 expression was greater than that in healthy muscle. In a mouse model of DMD, injection of an antagomir against miR-21 decreased muscle fibrosis compared with injection of a control antagomir. Next steps include extended safety studies of miR-21 in the DMD mouse model.</p> <p>Regulus Therapeutics Inc.'s antagomir-21, an antisense oligonucleotide targeting miR-21, is in preclinical development for cardiac fibrosis.</p> <p>SciBX 5(5); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.129 Published online Feb. 2, 2012</p>	<p>Patent application filed; available for licensing from Pompeu Fabra University Contact: Pablo Garcia Mahedero, Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, Spain phone: +34 935 421 273 e-mail: pablo.mahedero@upf.edu</p>	<p>Ardite, E. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Cell Biol.</i>; published online Jan. 2, 2012; doi:10.1083/jcb.201105013 Contact: Pura Muñoz-Cánoves, Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, Spain e-mail: pura.munoz@upf.edu</p>