

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Other				
Progeria	Isoprenylcysteine carboxyl methyltransferase (ICMT)	<p>Mouse and cell culture studies suggest inhibiting ICMT could help treat Hutchinson-Gilford progeria syndrome (HGPS), which causes premature aging. In a mouse model for HGPS, expression of an <i>Icmt</i> variant with decreased function improved gait and increased both body weight and survival compared with expression of wild-type <i>Icmt</i>. In fibroblasts from patients with HGPS, <i>ICMT</i>-targeting small hairpin RNA or a competitive ICMT inhibitor delayed senescence and increased proliferation compared with control shRNA or vehicle. Next steps include testing <i>Icmt</i> knockdown or ICMT inhibitors in additional mouse models for progeria.</p> <p>SciBX 6(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.552 Published online June 6, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Ibrahim, M.X. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online May 16, 2013; doi:10.1126/science.1238880 Contact: Martin O. Bergo, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden e-mail: martin.bergo@gu.se</p>