

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Musculoskeletal disease				
Osteoporosis	Transforming growth factor- β (TGFB; TGF β)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting TGFB signaling could help treat osteogenesis imperfecta (OI). In a mouse model of recessive OI, a pan-TGFB neutralizing antibody increased bone volume and strength and decreased OI-related lung pathology compared with a nonspecific control antibody. In a mouse model of dominant OI, the antibody increased bone volume compared with the control antibody. Next steps include evaluating an anti-TGFB therapeutic in a Phase I trial.</p> <p>InterMune Inc., Cipla Ltd., GNI Group Ltd., Ildong Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. and Shionogi & Co. Ltd. market the TGFB inhibitor Pirfenex pirfenidone to treat pulmonary fibrosis. At least 10 other companies have TGFB inhibitors in Phase II or earlier testing in indications other than OI.</p> <p>SciBX 7(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.647 Published online June 5, 2014</p>	Patent application filed; undisclosed company has option to license	<p>Grafe, I. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online May 4, 2014; doi:10.1038/nm.3544 Contact: Brendan Lee, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas e-mail: blee@bcm.edu</p>