

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Musculoskeletal disease				
Osteoporosis	Tryptophan hydroxylase 1 (TPH1; TPH)	Rat and <i>in vitro</i> studies identified ursolic acid derivatives that could be useful for treating osteoporosis. <i>In vitro</i> , the lead derivative was shown to bind TPH1 with micromolar affinity. In ovariectomized rats, oral treatment with the compound increased markers of bone formation and improved bone microarchitecture with efficacy comparable to that of injectable parathyroid hormone (PTH). Next steps could include optimizing the lead derivative and evaluating it in additional models of osteoporosis. SciBX 7(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.744 Published online June 26, 2014	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Fu, H.-J. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online May 20, 2014; doi:10.1021/jm5002293 Contact: Xian-Mei Zhou, Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine, Nanjing, China e-mail: xianmeizhou@aliyun.com Contact: Jian-Xin Li, Nanjing University, Nanjing, China e-mail: lijxnju@nju.edu.cn