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### **HYPOTHESIS**

**Gradients of O**<sub>2</sub> control skeletal development and homeostasis by regulating the HIF pathway



## HIF-1α (Hypoxia Inducible Factor)

. PAS (PER-ARNT-SIM) subfamily of bHLH transcription factors

. heterodimer HIF-1 $\alpha$ /ARNT; HIF-1 $\alpha$ , the hypoxia -responsive component of the complex

. ubiquitously expressed and highly unstable

. another member in the family, HIF-2lpha

#### **ΗΙF-1α: A KEY FACTOR IN CELLULAR ADAPTATION TO HYPOXIA**



#### HIF-1a: A KEY MEDIATOR OF CELLULAR ADAPTATION TO HYPOXIA

In normoxia, HIF-1α protein is rapidly degraded by the proteosome



Modified from Nature Review Rheumatology 2012; 8:358-366

### HIFs: A HOMEOSTATIC RESPONSE TO KEEP HYPOXIA "IN

CHECK"

MITOCHONDRIAL METABOLISM

EL NUMBER /MATRIX RATIO



RED BLOOD CELLS ROS METABOLISM

#### **HYPOTHESIS**

The complex actions of HIFs on O<sub>2</sub> homeostasis are exploited to modulate development and homeostasis of skeletal elements.



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