This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Precocious puberty; endometriosis	Kisspeptin 10 (KISS10)	<i>In vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> studies suggest that antagonizing kisspeptins could help treat gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH)-dependent reproductive disorders. In mouse brain slices, a Kiss10 peptide antagonist blocked the firing of GnRH neurons. In pubescent rhesus monkeys, the peptide antagonist lowered GnRH secretion from neurons. The antagonist also inhibited kisspeptin-induced release of luteinizing hormone (LH) in rats and mice, and it inhibited the rise in LH following castration in sheep, rats and mice. Next steps include clinical studies and creating new peptides with better pharmacokinetics. SciBX 2(14); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.577 Published online April 9, 2009	Findings patented by MRC Technology; available for licensing	Rosweir, A. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i> ; published online March 25, 2009; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5740-08.2009 Contact: Robert P. Millar, The Queens Medical Research Institute, Edinburgh, U.K. e-mail: r.millar@hrsu.mrc.ac.uk