This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Obesity	Histamine H3 receptor (HRH3)	An SAR study characterized a series of HRH3 inverse agonists that could help treat obesity. In a rat model of diet-induced obesity, chronic application of a hydroxyindole-2-carboxylic acid amide for 17 days significantly reduced body weight compared with citric acid treatment. Next steps could include further optimization of the compound to develop a candidate for clinical testing. <i>SciBX</i> 2(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.911 Published online June 4, 2009	Patent applications filed by Roche; unlicensed	Pierson, P. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online May 20, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900409x Contact: Jean-Marc Plancher, F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd., Basel, Switzerland e-mail: jean-marc.plancher@roche.com