This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine / Metabolic				
Endocrine	Dopamine transporter	Nonhuman primate studies suggest Ritalin methylphenidate could have the unwanted side effect of delaying puberty. In juvenile male nonhuman primates, twice-daily oral methylphenidate reduced testicular volume and serum testosterone compared with vehicle. Animals receiving the higher of two methylphenidate doses also had later testicular descent than animals receiving vehicle. Next steps include validating the results in cohorts of both pubertal and prepubertal nonhuman primates. Ritalin LA methylphenidate, a once-daily extended-release methylphenidate from Celgene Corp. and Novartis AG, is marketed to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). SciBX 4(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1067 Published online Sept. 29, 2011	Patent and licensing status not applicable	Mattison, D.R. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Sept. 19, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1102187108 Contact: Donald Mattison, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: mattisod@mail.nih.gov