This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Obesity	Neuropeptide Y receptor Y2 (NPY2R); NPY4R	Studies in mice suggest that a lipidated peptide agonist of NPY2R and NPY4R could help treat obesity. In mice, injection of a palmitoylated variant of Obinipitide, a synthetic peptide targeting NPY2R and NPY4R, resulted in greater bioavailability and prolonged the decrease of food intake compared with injection of unlipidated parent peptide. Next steps could include synthesizing additional lipidated analogs for testing in mouse models of obesity. 7TM Pharma A/S' Obinipitide was in Phase I/IIa trials to treat obesity. The company is now developing analogs including the lead lipidated analogs.	Lead compounds patented by 7TM; available for licensing	Bellman-Sickert, K. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online March 31, 2011; doi:10.1021/jm101357e Contact: Annette G. Beck-Sickinger, Leipzig University, Leipzig, Germany e-mail: beck-sickinger@uni-leipzig.de
<i>SciBX</i> 4(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.427 Published online April 14, 2011				