This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Breast cancer; endometriosis	Hydroxysteroid 17- β dehydrogenase 1 (HSD17B1)	<i>In vitro</i> and cell culture studies identified HSD17B1 inhibitors that could treat estrogen-dependent diseases like breast cancer and endometriosis. Inhibiting HSD17B1, which catalyzes the synthesis of estradiol, is known to decrease hormone-dependent breast tumor growth in animals. <i>In vitro</i> , two hydroxybenzothiazole-based compounds selectively inhibited human HSD17B1 with nanomolar IC ₅₀ values. Ongoing studies include optimizing the compounds for testing in marmoset models of endometriosis.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Spadaro, A. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Jan. 26, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm201711b Contact: Rolf W. Hartmann, Saarland University, Saarbruecken, Germany e-mail: rwh@mx.uni-saarland.de or rolf.hartmann@helmholtz-hzi.de
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