This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	μ -Opioid receptor (OPRM1; MOR)	Rat studies identified an orally active glycosylated endomorphin-1 that could help treat pain. In a rat model of chronic constriction injury, the compound caused dose-dependent decreases in pain sensitivity compared with vehicle. In the same model, the compound's analgesic effect was comparable to that of morphine without the latter's constipation side effects. Next steps could include testing the compound in large animal models of pain. <i>SciBX</i> 5(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.683 Published online June 28, 2012	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Varamini, P. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online June 8, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm300418d Contact: Istvan Toth, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia e-mail: i.toth@uq.edu.au