This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	μ -Opioid receptor (OPRM1; MOR)	<p>Mouse studies identified MOR-activating endomorphin-1 analogs that could help treat pain. In a mouse model of pain, four analogs containing α-methylene-β-amino propanoic acid had more potent antinociceptive effects than endomorphin-1. Next steps include optimizing the structure of the lead compound to improve its ability to cross the blood brain barrier.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 5(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.736 Published online July 19, 2012</p>	Patent pending in China; unavailable for licensing	<p>Wang, Y. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online June 22, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm300664y Contact: Rui Wang, Lanzhou University, Lanzhou, China e-mail: wangrui@lzu.edu.cn</p>