This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Endocrine disease	Pyroglutamylated RFamide peptide receptor (QRFP; GPR103)	<p>Mouse and <i>in vitro</i> studies suggest a GPR103 agonist could increase food intake to help treat anorexia. Chemical synthesis and <i>in vitro</i> testing identified a lead peptidomimetic that had more potent GPR103 agonist activity and a longer half-life than a peptide fragment of the receptor's endogenous ligand. In normal mice, the lead peptidomimetic increased food intake during a two-hour period compared with the peptide fragment. Ongoing work includes optimization of the lead peptidomimetic.</p> <p>SciBX 5(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.815 Published online Aug. 9, 2012</p>	Unpatented; available for licensing or partnering	<p>Neveu, C. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online July 16, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm300507d</p> <p>Contact: Jérôme Leprince, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM), Mont-Saint-Aignan, France e-mail: jerome.leprince@univ-rouen.fr</p>