This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Other				
Cushing's disease	Cytochrome P450 family 11 subfamily B polypeptide 1 (CYP11B1)	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies identified CYP11B1 inhibitors that could help treat Cushing's disease. In hamster fibroblasts expressing human CYP11B1, a cyclopropyl-based inhibitor derived from three reference compounds showed greater potency and selectivity than the reference compounds and Metopirone metyrapone, which is known to inhibit CYP11B1. In cell-based assays, the compound inhibited both human and rat CYP11B1. Next steps could include testing the compound in disease models.</p> <p>Novartis AG markets Metopirone, an inhibitor of endogenous adrenal corticosteroid synthesis, to treat Cushing's disease.</p> <p>SciBX 5(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.823 Published online Aug. 9, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Yin, L. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online July 12, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm3003872</p> <p>Contact: Rolf W. Hartmann, Saarland University and Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland, Saarbruecken, Germany e-mail: rolf.hartmann@helmholtz-hzi.de</p> <p>Contact: Qingzhong Hu, same affiliation as above e-mail: q.hu@mx.uni-saarland.de</p>