This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Contraception	Bromodomain testis-specific (BRDT); bromodomain and extra terminal domain (BET)	<p>Mouse studies suggest targeting BRDT with BET inhibitors could be useful as a male contraceptive. In male mice, daily injections with JQ1, a small molecule BET inhibitor, caused potent inhibition of BRDT, leading to decreased testicular volume, sperm counts and sperm motility compared with daily injections of vehicle. In mouse mating studies, males receiving JQ1 sired fewer offspring than vehicle-treated controls. Next steps include developing BRDT-selective JQ1 derivatives to avoid any potential adverse effects from inhibiting other bromodomain proteins targeted by JQ1.</p> <p>SciBX 5(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.927 Published online Sept. 6, 2012</p>	Patent applications filed covering inhibitor; exclusively licensed to Tensha Therapeutics Inc.	<p>Matzuk, M.M. <i>et al. Cell</i>; published online Aug. 17, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.cell.2012.06.045 Contact: James E. Bradner, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Mass. e-mail: james_bradner@dfci.harvard.edu Contact: Martin M. Matzuk, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas e-mail: mmatzuk@bcm.edu</p>