This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Inflammation				
Asthma	Leptin	<p>Mouse studies suggest anticholinergic compounds could help treat obesity-induced asthma. In two obesity-related mouse models of asthma, the anticholinergic agent tiotropium bromide, which inhibits parasympathetic signaling in airway smooth cells, prevented bronchoconstriction. Next steps include determining whether anticholinergic agents are effective against obesity-induced asthma. Boehringer Ingelheim GmbH and Pfizer Inc. market Spiriva/Respimat tiotropium to treat chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The compound is in Phase III testing to treat asthma.</p> <p>SciBX 6(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.91 Published online Jan. 31, 2013</p>	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Arteaga-Solis, E. <i>et al. Cell Metab.</i>; published online Jan. 8, 2013; doi:10.1016/j.cmet.2012.12.004 Contact: Gerard Karsenty, Columbia University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: gk2172@columbia.edu</p>