This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Cachexia	Parathyroid hormone-like hormone (PTHrP; PTHRP)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest neutralizing PTHRP could help treat cancer-associated cachexia. In a mouse model of Lewis lung carcinoma (LLC) with cachexia, knockout of <i>PR domain containing 16</i> (<i>Prdm16</i>), which is required for the browning of adipose tissue, prevented cachexia. A screen for proteins produced by LLC cells found that PTHRP induced the browning of primary adipocytes. In the mouse model of LLC, an anti-PTHRP antibody decreased cachexia symptoms compared with a control antibody. Next steps include developing a humanized PTHRP antibody.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Kir, S. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online July 13, 2014; doi:10.1038/nature13528 Contact: Bruce M. Spiegelman, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: bruce_spiegelman@dfci.harvard.edu
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