This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Down syndrome	Not applicable	Studies in mice suggest that increasing norepinephrine levels in the hippocampus could help treat cognitive dysfunction associated with Down syndrome. In a mouse model of Down syndrome, a blood brain barrier (BBB)-permeable prodrug of norepinephrine improved contextual learning compared with saline vehicle. Next steps include developing a method that can measure and quantify contextual learning in Down syndrome patients. *SciBX* 2(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1728 Published online Dec. 10, 2009	Patent application submitted by the Stanford University School of Medicine covering use of norepinephrine-enhancing agents to treat cognitive deficits associated with Down syndrome and Alzheimer's disease (AD); licensing inquiries should be directed to the Stanford University School of Medicine technology transfer office	Salehi, A. *et al. Sci. Transl. Med.*; published online Nov. 18, 2009; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3000258 **Contact:** Ahmad Salehi, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: asalehi@stanford.edu