

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hematology				
Hematology	Hepcidin antimicrobial peptide (HAMP); solute carrier family 40 iron-regulated transporter member 1 (SLC40A1; SLC11A3)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest HAMP mimics could help treat hereditary hemochromatosis (HHC) and other iron-overload diseases. <i>In vitro</i> and computational studies identified small HAMP peptides and peptidomimetics (minihepcidins) as HAMP agonists. In a Hamp-deficient mouse model of HHC, one minihepcidin prevented iron overload in the liver compared with vehicle. Future studies could include testing the minihepcidins in mouse models of β thalassemia. SciBX 4(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1271 Published online Nov. 17, 2011	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Preza, G.C. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online Nov. 1, 2011; doi:10.1172/JCI57693 Contact: Elizabeta Nemet, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: enemeth@mednet.ucla.edu