

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Obesity	Cannabinoid CB ₁ receptor (CNR1)	<p>Rat studies suggest inhibiting CNR1 in the intestine could help treat obesity. In rats, intraduodenal delivery of a CNR1 antagonist lowered fat intake compared with delivery of vehicle ($p < 0.05$). Next steps include determining how to control fat-induced endocannabinoid signaling in the gut to decrease overeating and obesity.</p> <p>At least four CNR1 antagonists are in Phase I testing or earlier to treat diabetes, obesity or dyslipidemia.</p> <p>SciBX 4(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.795 Published online July 21, 2011</p>	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>DiPatrizio, N.V. <i>et al.</i> <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online July 5, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1104675108 Contact: Daniele Piomelli, University of California, Irvine, Calif. e-mail: piomelli@uci.edu</p>