

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Infectious disease				
Pneumonia	Growth hormone-releasing hormone receptor (GHRHR)	<p>Mouse studies suggest GHRHR agonists may help treat pulmonary permeability edema, a complication of <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> infection. In a mouse model of <i>S. pneumoniae</i> toxin-induced edema, the GHRHR agonist JI-34 decreased alveolar permeability and edema formation compared with no treatment. Next steps include testing the efficacy of GHRHR agonists on alveolar liquid clearance in isolated, perfused human lungs and on edema formation in <i>Pneumococcus</i>-infected mice treated with antibiotics.</p> <p>Theratechnologies Inc. markets the GHRHR agonist Egrifta tesamorelin for lipodystrophy.</p> <p>SciBX 5(5); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.127 Published online Feb. 2, 2012</p>	Patent applications filed; available for licensing	<p>Lucas, R. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Jan. 23, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1121075109</p> <p>Contact: Andrew V. Schally, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, Fla. e-mail: andrew.schally@va.gov</p> <p>Contact: Rudolf Lucas, Georgia Health Sciences University, Augusta, Ga. e-mail: rlucas@georgiahealth.edu</p>