

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Metabolic disease	G protein-coupled receptor 171 (GPR171)	Cell culture and mouse studies suggest modulating GPR171 activity could help treat metabolic disorders. In cultured neurons, a peptide previously shown to regulate body weight called BigLEN was shown to bind and activate GPR171. In mice, small hairpin RNA knockdown of <i>Gpr171</i> combined with intracerebroventricular injection of an anti-BigLEN antibody decreased food intake compared with no knockdown. Next steps include screening for agonists and antagonists of GPR171.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Gomes, I. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Sept. 16, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1312938110 Contact: Lakshmi A. Devi, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, N.Y. e-mail: lakshmi.devi@mssm.edu
		<i>SciBX</i> 6(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1162 Published online Oct. 24, 2013		