

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Endocrine/metabolic disease</b>				
Obesity	Neuropeptide Y receptor Y2 (NPY2R); peptide tyrosine-tyrosine (PYY)	<p>Mouse studies suggest PYY delivered as an oral spray could help suppress appetite and treat obesity. Systemic delivery of PYY has been shown to suppress appetite but also causes nausea and taste aversion. In mice given flavored water or food, i.p. delivery of PYY caused taste aversion, whereas an oral spray did not. The orally delivered PYY bound NPY2R in the oral cavity and stimulated a dedicated neuronal pathway implicated in taste response. Next steps include submitting an IND to the FDA to start a Phase I trial.</p> <p>The authors are founding SalinomiRx LLC, a biotech developing PYY and other GI peptides to modulate food intake, appetite, satiation and body weight.</p> <p><b>SciBX 7(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.20</b> Published online Jan. 9, 2014</p>	<p>Patent application filed; available for licensing from the University of Florida</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> April Kilburn, University of Florida Office of Technology Licensing, Gainesville, Fla. e-mail: <a href="mailto:akilburn@ufl.edu">akilburn@ufl.edu</a></p>	<p>Hurtado, M.D. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online Nov. 20, 2013; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.1064-13.2013</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Sergei Zolotukhin, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla. e-mail: <a href="mailto:szlt@ufl.edu">szlt@ufl.edu</a></p>