This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Obesity	IκB kinase-ε (IKBKE; IKKε)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting IKKε could help treat obesity. In mice, a high-fat diet increased IKKε expression in the liver and adipose tissue. <i>IKKε</i> knockout protected against obesity, insulin resistance, hepatic steatosis and chronic inflammation with increased energy expenditure. Next steps include screening for small molecule IKKε inhibitors.</p> <p>Takeda Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd.'s IKK inhibitor, MLN0415, is in Phase I testing to treat inflammatory disease.</p> <p>SciBX 2(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1346 Published online Sept. 10, 2009</p>	Patent application filed; University of Michigan not engaged in licensing discussions at this time	<p>Chiang, S. <i>et al. Cell</i>; published online Sept. 3, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.cell.2009.06.046</p> <p>Contact: Alan R. Saltiel, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. e-mail: saltiel@lsi.umich.edu</p>