This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Metabolic disease				
Diabetes	Arrestin β 2 (ARR β 2)	<p>A study in mice suggests that increasing ARRβ2 expression may be useful for preventing insulin resistance in type 2 diabetes. In a mouse model of the disease, ARRβ2 protein and mRNA levels in the liver and muscle were lower than those seen in lean mice. In diabetic mice overexpressing human ARRβ2 in the liver, blood glucose levels following feeding were significantly lower than those seen in mice overexpressing a control vector, indicating that ARRβ2 is a positive regulator of insulin sensitivity. Next steps could include studying the mechanisms of additional factors in the ARRβ2 pathways.</p> <p>SciBX 2(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.150 Published online Jan. 29, 2009</p>	<p>Patent pending; available for licensing from the Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences Center of Technology Transfer and Commercialization</p>	<p>Luan, B. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Jan. 4, 2009; doi:10.1038/nature07617 Contact: Gang Pei, Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China e-mail: gpei@sibs.ac.cn</p>