This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Diabetes	Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor (GLP1R; GLP-1R)	<p>A study in mice identified several long-acting, bile acid-derivatized exendin-4 molecules that could help treat type 2 diabetes. In a mouse model of diabetes, the bile acid-modified exendin-4 derivatives resulted in an improvement in glucose control of up to 14-fold compared with exendin-4. Next steps could include comparing the efficacy of the bile acid-modified exendin-4 derivatives with other long-acting derivatives of exendin-4 in the clinic.</p> <p>Byetta exenatide, a synthetic exendin-4 from Amylin Pharmaceuticals Inc. and Eli Lilly and Co., is marketed to treat type 2 diabetes. A once-weekly formulation is under FDA review for the same indication.</p> <p>At least two other companies have exendin-4 analogs in Phase II or earlier for the same indication.</p> <p>SciBX 2(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1569 Published online Oct. 29, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Son, S. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Oct. 14, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm901153x</p> <p>Contact: Kang Choon Lee, Sungkyunkwan University, Suwon, South Korea e-mail: kclees@skku.edu</p>