This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Obesity	Forkhead box A2 (FOXA2)	Studies in mice suggest that increasing <i>FOXA2</i> expression in the hypothalamus could help treat obesity and related metabolic disorders. In obese mice, animals with conditional expression of <i>Foxa2</i> in the brain had better glucose homeostasis, less fat and greater lean body mass than control mice. Next steps include identifying small molecules that prevent the inactivation of FOXA2. <i>SciBX</i> 2(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1762 Published online Dec. 17, 2009	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Silva, J. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online Dec. 3, 2009; doi:10.1038/nature08589 Contact: Markus Stoffel, The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ), Zurich, Switzerland e-mail: stoffel@imsb.biol.ethz.ch