This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Diabetes; obesity	Monoacylglycerol O-acyltransferase 2 (MOGAT2; MGAT2)	A study in mice suggests that MGAT2 could be antagonized to treat type 2 diabetes and obesity. MGAT2 is an enzyme that helps intestinal cells convert absorbed free fatty acids into triacylglycerides. MGAT2 knockout mice fed a high-fat diet had less weight gain than similarly fed wild-type controls. Compared with controls, the knockouts also were resistant to hyperinsulinemia and glucose intolerance induced by a high-fat diet. Next steps include studying the kinetics of fat absorption in MGAT2 knockouts and developing selective inhibitors of MGAT2.	Patented by the University of California; available for licensing Contact: Joel Kirschbaum, Office of Technology Management, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: joel.kirschbaum@ucsf.edu	Chi-Liang, E.Y. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i> ; published online March 15, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.1937 Contact: Robert Farese, Jr., University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: bfarese@gladstone.ucsf.edu
SciBX 2(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.536 Published online April 2, 2009				