This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Diabetes	von Hippel-Lindau tumor suppressor (VHL); hypoxia-inducible factor 1 (HIF1A; HIF1)	Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting the VHL/HIF1 oxygen-sensing pathway could help treat type 2 diabetes. In mice with impaired glucose-stimulated insulin secretion, knockout of <i>Hif1α</i> in pancreatic β-cells restored such secretion. Because the VHL/HIF1 pathway has been implicated in hypoxic graft failure, further studies are necessary to determine the effects of inhibiting the VHL/HIF1 pathway following islet transplantation or stem cell treatments. <i>SciBX</i> 2(3); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.94 Published online Jan. 22, 2009	Manipulation of HIF system patented worldwide; exclusively licensed by ReOx Ltd.; unavailable for licensing	Cantley, J. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online Dec. 8, 2008; doi:10.1172/JCI26934 Contact: Dominic J. Withers, University College London, London, U.K. e-mail: d.withers@ucl.ac.uk Contact: Patrick H. Maxwell, same affiliation as above e-mail: p.maxwell@ucl.ac.uk