This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Obesity	Phospholipase A ₂ , group XVI (PLA2G16; AdPLA)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that ablation of AdPLA, which is highly expressed only in adipocytes, could be useful for preventing obesity. In mice, the rate of lipolysis in adipose tissue was markedly higher in mice lacking AdPLA than that seen in wild-type littermates. AdPLA-null mice had lower adipose tissue mass and triglyceride content than wild-type control mice. Next steps include screening for compounds with anti-AdPLA activity. There are at least five PLA₂ inhibitors in development stages ranging from preclinical to Phase III for a range of indications.</p> <p>SciBX 2(3); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.95 Published online Jan. 22, 2009</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Jaworski, K. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Jan. 11, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.1904 Contact: Hei Sook Sul, University of California, Berkeley, Calif. e-mail: hsul@nature.berkeley.edu</p>