This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Type 1 diabetes	Not applicable	<p>A study in mice suggests that leptin could be useful for treating type 1 diabetes. In nonobese diabetic mice, long-term systemic delivery of leptin reduced glucose levels to about half of those seen after delivery of exogenous insulin. In hyperphagic diabetic mice, leptin reduced food intake compared with no treatment. Leptin-treated mice had lower plasma triacylglycerol levels and lower activity of cholesterol-making enzymes than insulin-treated controls. Next steps include Phase II trials of leptin as an adjunct to insulin therapy to treat type 1 diabetes.</p> <p>Amylin Pharmaceuticals Inc. and partner Takeda Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. have a combination of leptin analog metreleptin and pramlintide, an amylin analog, in Phase II testing to treat obesity.</p> <p>SciBX 3(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.310 Published online March 11, 2010</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing	<p>Wang, M.-Y. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online March 1, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0909422107</p> <p>Contact: Roger Unger, Touchstone Diabetes Center, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Dallas, Texas</p> <p>e-mail: roger.unger@utsouthwestern.edu</p>