This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Renal disease				
Diabetic nephropathy	Acetyl-coenzyme A carboxylase- β (ACACB; ACC2)	<p>Genomewide and <i>in vitro</i> studies suggest that a SNP on <i>ACACB</i> could help predict risk for diabetic nephropathy in type 2 diabetes patients. A meta-analysis of nine genomewide studies identified a correlation between a SNP in <i>ACACB</i> and proteinuria in Japanese patients with type 2 diabetes ($p=5.35 \times 10^{-8}$), as well as an association between the same SNP and end-stage renal disease in European-American patients with type 2 diabetes ($p=6 \times 10^{-4}$). Ongoing work in cellular and animal models includes investigating the role of <i>ACACB</i> in diabetic nephropathy.</p> <p>SciBX 3(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.319 Published online March 11, 2010</p>	Patented by RIKEN and Shionogi & Co. Ltd.; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Maeda, S. <i>et al. PLoS Genet.</i>; published online Feb. 12, 2010; doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1000842</p> <p>Contact: Shiro Maeda, RIKEN Center for Genomic Medicine, Yokohama City, Japan e-mail: smaeda@src.riken.jp</p>