This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Diabetes	Syntaxin binding protein 5 like (STXBP5L)	<p>Mouse and <i>in vitro</i> studies suggest STXBP5L could contribute to the pathogenesis of type 2 diabetes. Genetic studies in mice identified a <i>Stxbp5l</i> SNP that was associated with greater expression of <i>Stxbp5l</i> in pancreatic islets, lower insulin secretion and higher fasting plasma glucose levels than those in wild-type controls. In rat pancreatic β cells, expression of <i>STXBP5L</i> reduced insulin secretion compared with that seen using a vector control. Future studies could include determining whether <i>STXBP5L</i> expression is increased in the pancreatic islets of type 2 diabetes patients.</p> <p>SciBX 4(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1145 Published online Oct. 20, 2011</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Bhatnagar, S. <i>et al. PLoS Genet.</i>; published online Oct. 6, 2011; doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1002323 Contact: Alan D. Attie, University of Wisconsin–Madison, Madison, Wis. e-mail: adattie@wisc.edu</p>