This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Obesity	Arrestin domain containing 3 (ARRDC3)	<p>Mouse and human sample studies suggest decreasing levels of ARRDC3 could help treat male obesity. In human adipose tissue biopsies, obese males had greater ARRDC3 expression than normal-weight males. The increased expression correlated with higher body mass index. Arrdc3-deficient mice were resistant to age-induced obesity and had lower insulin resistance and increased energy expenditure compared with wild-type controls. Next steps include directly targeting ARRDC3 with therapeutics.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 4(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1180 Published online Oct. 27, 2011</p>	Patent application filed, available for licensing	<p>Patwari, P. <i>et al. Cell Metab.</i>; published online Oct. 6, 2011; doi:10.1016/j.cmet.2011.08.011 Contact: Richard T. Lee, Harvard Stem Cell Institute, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: rlee@partners.org Contact: Parth Patwari, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: parth@alum.mit.edu</p>