This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Renal disease				
Polycystic kidney disease (PKD)	AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that activating AMPK could help treat PKD. In mice, the AMPK activator metformin decreased cyst burden in the kidney compared with a vehicle control. Next steps include determining metformin dosing for PKD clinical trials.</p> <p>Metformin is a generic compound approved to treat diabetes and polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS).</p> <p>SciBX 4(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.173 Published online Feb. 10, 2011</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Takiar, V. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Jan. 24, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1011498108</p> <p>Contact: Michael J. Caplan, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Conn. e-mail: michael.caplan@yale.edu</p>