This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Obesity; metabolic syndrome	Inositol hexakisphosphate kinase-1 (IP6K1)	<p>A study in cell culture and in mice suggests that antagonizing IP6K1 could help treat obesity and metabolic syndrome. In a mouse model of metabolic syndrome, <i>Ip6k1</i> knockout led to greater glucose tolerance and insulin sensitivity than those in wild-type controls. In mice on a high-fat diet, <i>Ip6k1</i> deficiency led to less weight gain than that seen in wild-type controls. Next steps include identifying IP6K1 inhibitors and testing them in mouse models of obesity and metabolic syndrome.</p> <p>SciBX 4(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.21 Published online Jan. 6, 2011</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Chakraborty, A. <i>et al. Cell</i>; published online Dec. 10, 2010; doi:10.1016/j.cell.2010.11.032</p> <p>Contact: Solomon H. Snyder, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Md. e-mail: ssnyder@jhmi.edu</p>