This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Diabetes	Erythropoietin (EPO); EPO receptor	<p>A study in cell culture and in mice suggests that EPO receptor modulators could be useful for treating type 1 and type 2 diabetes. In mouse models of type 1 and type 2 diabetes, recombinant human EPO decreased blood glucose levels and increased pancreatic islet β cell mass compared with saline control. Next steps include testing EPO derivatives designed to act only on nonerythroid cells in mouse models of diabetes.</p> <p>At least six companies market EPO or EPO analogs to treat anemia.</p> <p>Shire plc and Warren Pharmaceuticals Inc. have EPO derivatives in preclinical development as tissue protectants for a range of non-neurological indications.</p> <p>SciBX 4(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.44 Published online Jan. 13, 2011</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Choi, D. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online Dec. 13, 2010; doi:10.1084/jem.20100665</p> <p>Contact: Minna Woo, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: mwoo@uhnres.utoronto.ca</p>