This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Metabolic disease				
Metabolic disorders	MicroRNA-33 (<i>miR-33</i>)	<p>Studies in cell culture suggest inhibiting <i>miR-33</i> could help treat metabolic disorders. In liver cells, an anti-<i>miR-33</i> oligonucleotide increased fatty acid β-oxidation compared with control oligonucleotide. Also in liver cells, transfection with <i>miR-33</i> lowered fatty acid β-oxidation and insulin-activated signaling pathways compared with control miRNA transfection. Next steps include testing the anti-<i>miR-33</i> compound in mouse models of diabetes and nonalcoholic fatty liver disease.</p> <p>Regulus Therapeutics Inc. has an oligonucleotide that targets miR-33 in preclinical development to treat cardiovascular disease.</p> <p>SciBX 4(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.631 Published online June 2, 2011</p>	Patented; licensed exclusively to Regulus Therapeutics	<p>Dávalos, A. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online May 16, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1102281108</p> <p>Contact: Carlos Fernández-Hernando, New York University School of Medicine, New York, N.Y. e-mail: carlos.fernandez-hernando@nyumc.org</p>