This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Dyslipidemia	X-box binding protein 1 (XBP1); endoplasmic reticulum to nucleus signaling 1 (ERN1; IRE1)	<p>Studies in mice suggest antagonizing XBP1 or IRE1 could help treat dyslipidemia. In mice fed a high-fat diet, hepatocyte-specific deletion of IRE1, a bifunctional kinase and nuclease that promotes XBP1 activity, or small interfering RNA against Xbp1 decreased triglyceride and cholesterol levels compared with control vector. Next steps include testing IRE1 inhibitors in mice with dyslipidemia.</p> <p>SciBX 5(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1111 Published online Oct. 25, 2012</p>	<p>Patent pending for findings in first study; available for licensing</p> <p>Patent and licensing status undisclosed for findings in second study</p>	<p>So, J.-S. <i>et al. Cell Metab.</i>; published online Oct. 3, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.cmet.2012.09.004 Contact: Ann-Hwee Lee, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass. e-mail: anl2042@med.cornell.edu</p> <p>Wang, S. <i>et al. Cell Metab.</i>; published online Oct. 3, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.cmet.2012.09.003 Contact: Randal J. Kaufman, Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: rkaufman@sbmri.org</p>