This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Metabolic disease; obesity	Phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase 1 (PCK1)	<p>A zebrafish screening study identified metabolic activators that could protect against obesity-related metabolic dysregulation. A high throughput screening study using transgenic reporter zebrafish identified two ligands that increased <i>Pck1</i> promoter activity compared with vehicle. In mice with diet-induced obesity, subcutaneous injection of the lead ligand decreased hepatosteatosis and glucose intolerance compared with vehicle. Next steps include further characterizing the effects of the lead screening hit and using the zebrafish screen to identify more compounds with similar effects on metabolism.</p> <p>SciBX 5(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1257 Published online Dec. 13, 2012</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Gut, P. <i>et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.</i>; published online Dec. 2, 2012; doi:10.1038/nchembio.1136 Contact: Didier Y.R. Stainier, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: didier.stainier@mpi-bn.mpg.de Contact: Philipp Gut, same affiliation as above e-mail: philipp.gut@ucsf.edu</p>