This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Diabetes	Neutrophil elastase (NE; ELA-2)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting NE could help treat diabetes. In mice fed a high-fat diet, neutrophil recruitment and NE secretion in adipose tissue and liver were greater than those in mice fed a normal diet. In mice with diet-induced obesity, an NE inhibitor or genetic knockout improved glucose tolerance. Next steps could include testing NE inhibition in additional animal models of obesity and diabetes.</p> <p>Ono Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. markets the NE inhibitor Sivelestat to treat acute lung injury.</p> <p>SciBX 5(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.901 Published online Aug. 30, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Talukdar, S. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Aug. 5, 2012; doi:10.1038/nm.2885</p> <p>Contact: Jerrold M. Olefsky, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: jolefsky@ucsd.edu</p>