This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Diabetes	Hypoxia-inducible factor prolyl hydroxylase 3 (EGLN3; HIF-PH3; PHD3)	<p>Mouse studies suggest liver-specific inhibition of PHD3 could help treat type 2 diabetes without the toxicity of pan-PHD inhibition. In mice fed a high-fat diet, liver-specific knockout of <i>Phd3</i> improved insulin sensitivity and reversed the diabetic phenotype compared with wild-type <i>Phd3</i> expression. In the <i>Phd3</i>-deficient mice, liver-specific knockout of <i>Phd1</i> (<i>Egln2</i>; <i>Hif-ph1</i>) and <i>Phd2</i> (<i>Egln1</i>; <i>Hif-ph2</i>) did not yield additional metabolic improvements but caused hepatic steatosis. Next steps include identifying a PHD3-specific inhibitor and evaluating it in additional animal models.</p> <p>SciBX 6(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1126 Published online Oct. 17, 2013</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Taniguchi, C.M. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Sept. 15, 2013; doi:10.1038/nm.3294 Contact: Amato J. Giaccia, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: giaccia@stanford.edu</p>