This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Diabetes	Betatrophin	<p>Mouse studies suggest betatrophin could be useful for treating type 2 diabetes. In three mouse models for type 2 diabetes, betatrophin injection increased blood glucose levels and islet β cell mass compared with vehicle. Next steps include identification of the betatrophin receptor and preclinical development of a recombinant injectable form of the protein.</p> <p>Evotec AG and Johnson & Johnson's Janssen Pharmaceuticals Inc. unit have a program based on the technology in the lead optimization stage for type 2 diabetes.</p> <p>SciBX 6(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.439 Published online May 9, 2013</p>	Patent pending; licensed to Evotec	<p>Yi, P. <i>et al. Cell</i>; published online April 25, 2013; doi:10.1016/j.cell.2013.04.008 Contact: Douglas A. Melton, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: dmelton@harvard.edu</p>