This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Diabetes	Solute carrier family 10 sodium-dependent bile acid transporter member 2 (SLC10A2; ASBT; IBAT)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and rodent studies identified benzothiazepine ASBT inhibitors that could help treat diabetes. <i>In vitro</i>, the lead analogs selectively inhibited ASBT with nanomolar IC₅₀ values. In a rat model for type 2 diabetes, the lead compounds increased plasma insulin and decreased plasma glucose compared with vehicle. GlaxoSmithKline plc has completed Phase I testing of the lead compound (GSK2330672) to treat type 2 diabetes.</p> <p>Albireo AB, Ajinomoto Co. Inc. and Ferring Pharmaceuticals A/S have the ASBT inhibitor elobixibat (A3309) in Phase III testing to treat constipation and Phase II testing to treat irritable bowel syndrome (IBS).</p> <p>Albireo's A4250, an ASBT inhibitor, is in preclinical development for diabetes, cirrhosis and other liver diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 6(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.602 Published online June 20, 2013</p>	Patented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Wu, Y. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online May 16, 2013; doi:10.1021/jm400459m Contact: Jon L. Collins, GlaxoSmithKline Research & Development, Research Triangle Park, N.C. e-mail: jon.l.collins@gsk.com</p>