This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Obesity; metabolic syndrome	Potassium channel Kv1.3 (KCNA3)	<p>Mouse studies suggest the KCNA3-inhibiting peptide ShK-186 could help treat obesity or metabolic syndrome. In a mouse model for diet-induced obesity, ShK-186 led to less weight gain than vehicle. In the mouse obesity model, ShK-186 activated metabolism in brown adipose and improved peripheral insulin sensitivity. Next steps include investigating ShK-186 in obesity-related indications in humans.</p> <p>Kineta Inc. has completed Phase Ia testing of ShK-186 in autoimmune diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 6(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.628 Published online June 27, 2013</p>	Patented; licensed to Kineta	<p>Upadhyay, S.K. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online May 31, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1221206110</p> <p>Contact: K. George Chandy, University of California, Irvine, Calif. e-mail: gchandy@uci.edu</p>