This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Metabolic syndrome; diabetes	Stimulated by retinoic acid 6 (STRA6)	<p>Mouse studies suggest antagonizing STRA6 could help treat metabolic syndrome and type 2 diabetes. STRA6 is a plasma membrane receptor that aids the absorption of retinol. In mice on a high-fat diet, <i>Stra6</i> deletion improved glucose tolerance and insulin response without impairing retinol metabolism in peripheral tissue. Next steps include identifying Stra6-antagonizing mAbs and testing their effects in mouse models of metabolic disease.</p> <p>SciBX 6(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.863 Published online Aug. 22, 2013</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing	<p>Berry, D.C. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i>; published online July 9, 2013; doi:10.1074/jbc.M113.484014 Contact: Norbert B. Ghyselinck, University of Strasbourg, Illkirch, France e-mail: norbert@igbmc.fr Contact: Noa Noy, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio e-mail: noa.noy@case.edu</p>