This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Diabetes; obesity	Protein arginine methyltransferase 6 (PRMT6)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting PRMT6 could help treat obesity and type 2 diabetes. In normal mice, hepatic overexpression of <i>Prmt6</i> increased blood glucose levels compared with unmodified <i>Prmt6</i> expression by enhancing the expression of gluconeogenic genes. In mouse models of obesity and diabetes, hepatic levels of Prmt6 were higher than those in healthy controls. In the same mouse models of obesity and diabetes, injection of an adenoviral vector encoding <i>Prmt6</i> shRNA decreased blood glucose levels compared with injection of a vector encoding scrambled shRNA. Next steps include investigating whether SNPs on <i>PRMT6</i> are associated with diabetes and obesity in humans.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Han, H.-S. <i>et al. Sci. Signal.</i> ; published online Feb. 25, 2014; doi:10.1126/scisignal.2004479 Contact: Seung-Hoi Koo, Korea University, Seoul, South Korea e-mail: koohoi@korea.ac.kr
SciBX 7(12); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.346 Published online March 27, 2014				