This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Obesity	Farnesoid X receptor (FXR; NR1H4)	<p>Mouse studies suggest FXR is required to mediate the effects of vertical sleeve gastrectomy—a type of bariatric surgery—on obesity. In wild-type, obese mice that received vertical sleeve gastrectomy, body fat and food intake were lower at 11 weeks after surgery than those in sham-surgery controls. However, in <i>Fxr</i>^{-/-}, obese mice receiving the surgery, food intake increased beginning 4 weeks after surgery and there was no loss of body fat 11 weeks after surgery. Ongoing work includes elucidating how FXR signaling regulates food intake and induces weight loss after vertical sleeve gastrectomy.</p> <p>SciBX 7(14); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.402 Published online April 10, 2014</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Ryan, K.K. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online March 26, 2014; doi:10.1038/nature13135 Contact: Randy J. Seeley, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio e-mail: randy.seeley@uc.edu</p>