This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Obesity	Phospholipase A ₂ group V (PLA ₂ G5); PLA ₂ G2E	<p>Mouse studies suggest stabilizing PLA₂G5 or inhibiting PLA₂G2E could help treat or prevent metabolic diseases including obesity. In mice fed a high-fat diet, knocking out <i>Pla₂g5</i> increased weight gain and adipose tissue inflammation compared with no alteration. In mice fed a high-fat diet, <i>Pla₂g5</i> overexpression in white adipocytes improved insulin control and decreased proinflammatory gene expression. In mice fed a high-fat diet, knocking out <i>Pla₂g2</i> decreased adipocyte size, fat volume, plasma phospholipids and cholesterol levels compared with no alteration. Next steps include developing specific PLA₂G5 stabilizers and PLA₂G2E inhibitors.</p> <p>SciBX 7(27); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.796 Published online July 17, 2014</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Sato, H. <i>et al. Cell Metab.</i>; published online June 5, 2014; doi:10.1016/j.cmet.2014.05.002 Contact: Makoto Murakami, Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Medical Science, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: murakami-mk@igakuken.or.jp</p>