

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Endocrine disease</b>				
Type 2 diabetes	Integrin, $\alpha$ -X (complement component 3 receptor 4 subunit) (ITG $\alpha$ X; CD11C)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that depleting CD11c<sup>+</sup> cells could be useful for treating obesity-related insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes. In obese mice, conditional ablation of CD11c<sup>+</sup> cells lowered adipose tissue and normalized insulin sensitivity compared with what was seen in wild-type controls. Depletion of CD11c<sup>+</sup> cells also led to local and systemic decreases in proinflammatory cytokine levels compared with those seen in wild-type mice. High levels of infiltrating macrophages are often characteristic of adipose tissue in obese mice. Next steps include investigating whether the same subset of macrophages expressing CD11c<sup>+</sup> plays a similar disease-causing role in humans.</p> <p><b>SciBX 1(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.949</b> Published online Oct. 30, 2008</p>	Patent and licensing status unknown	<p>Patsouris, D. et al. <i>Cell Metab.</i>; published online Oct. 7, 2008; doi:10.1016/j.cmet.2008.08.015</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Jaap G. Neels, Nice Sophia Antipolis University, Nice, France e-mail: <a href="mailto:jaap.neels@unice.fr">jaap.neels@unice.fr</a></p>