

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Type 2 diabetes; obesity	CREB-regulated transcription coactivator 2 (CRTC2; TORC2); activating transcription factor 6 (ATF6)	A study in mice suggests that enhancing activity of hepatic CRTC2 or ATF6 could be useful for treating type 2 diabetes and obesity. In cell culture, CRTC2 activated ATF6. Obese mice had lower Atf6 levels and greater levels of gluconeogenesis and serum glucose than lean mice. In obese mice, adenoviral overexpression of hepatic Atf6 resulted in lower expression of gluconeogenesis genes, lower serum glucose and better glucose tolerance than were seen in obese mice that received GFP control expression vector. Next steps include testing the effect of CRTC2 knockdown on mouse body weight.	Patented; available for licensing	Wang, Y. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online June 14, 2009; doi:10.1038/nature08111 Contact: Marc Montminy, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: Montminy@salk.edu
		SciBX 2(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1047 Published online July 9, 2009		