

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Endocrine disease</b>				
Obesity; diabetes	Not applicable	A study in mice suggests that brown fat generated through cellular reprogramming could be useful for treating obesity and type 2 diabetes. Genetically reprogrammed murine fibroblasts implanted subcutaneously into mice developed into brown fat pads with higher metabolic rates and energy expenditure than neighboring tissue. Next steps include optimizing the implantation procedure and testing the effect of engineered brown fat on weight loss in mouse models of obesity.	Earlier patent on induction of brown fat is pending; licensing status undisclosed	Kajimura, S. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online July 29, 2009; doi:10.1038/nature08262 <b>Contact:</b> Bruce Spiegelman, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: <a href="mailto:bruce_spiegelman@dfci.harvard.edu">bruce_spiegelman@dfci.harvard.edu</a>
<p><b>SciBX 2(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1211</b> Published online Aug. 13, 2009</p>				