

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Diabetes	ELOVL family member 6 elongation of long-chain fatty acids (ELOVL6; FAE)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies identified benzoxazinone-based ELOVL6 inhibitors that could help treat type 2 diabetes. ELOVL6 is involved in long-chain fatty acid synthesis, a process linked with liver dysfunction and inhibition of insulin function. In mice, oral doses of the lead inhibitor had good pharmacokinetics and suppressed elongation of target fatty acids. Next steps could include testing the inhibitors in animal models of diabetes.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Mizutani, T. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Nov. 2, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900915x Contact: Takashi Mizutani, Tsukuba Research Institute, Merck Research Laboratories, Ibaraki, Japan e-mail: miztnitk@gmail.com
		SciBX 2(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1693 Published online Dec. 3, 2009		