This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Diabetes	Selenoprotein P plasma 1 (SEPP1; SeP)	<p>Patient tissue and mouse studies suggest that inhibiting SEPP1 could help treat type 2 diabetes. In diabetic patients, <i>SEPP1</i> levels in the liver and SEPP1 protein levels in sera were higher than those in healthy controls. In mouse models of type 2 diabetes, genetic deletion or small interfering RNA-mediated knockdown of Sepp1 increased insulin sensitivity and glucose tolerance compared with what was seen in wild-type mice or using control siRNA. Next steps include identifying functional receptors for SEPP1 in insulin-responsive organs.</p> <p>SciBX 3(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1355 Published online Nov. 18, 2010</p>	Patented; available for licensing	<p>Misu, H. <i>et al. Cell Metab.</i>; published online Nov. 3, 2010; doi:10.1016/j.cmet.2010.09.015 Contact: Toshinari Takamura, Kanazawa University Graduate School of Medical Science, Ishikawa, Japan e-mail: ttakamura@m-kanazawa.jp</p>