

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Endocrine disease</b>				
Diabetes	Regulatory factor X6 (RFX6)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that increasing levels of the transcription factor RFX6 could help generate $\beta$ -islet cells to treat diabetes. In mice, <i>Rfx6</i> deficiency prevented generation of normal pancreatic islets during development compared with that in wild-type controls. Next steps could include determining how RFX6 helps generate pancreatic islets and how to use RFX6 to produce new pancreatic $\beta$ -islet cells for diabetic patients.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Smith, S. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online Feb. 10, 2010; doi:10.1038/nature08748 <b>Contact:</b> Michael German, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: <a href="mailto:mgerman@diabetes.ucsf.edu">mgerman@diabetes.ucsf.edu</a>
<b>SciBX 3(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.247</b> Published online Feb. 25, 2010				