This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Metabolic disorders	Sirtuin 3 (SIRT3)	<p>A study in mice suggests that SIRT3 agonists could help treat metabolic disorders such as obesity, metabolic syndrome and type 2 diabetes. Fasting <i>Sirt3</i> knockout mice had higher levels of fatty acid metabolic intermediates resulting from defective fatty acid oxidation than wild-type mice. Next steps include testing the effect of <i>SIRT3</i> overexpression on weight and fatty acid metabolism and identifying small molecule SIRT3 agonists.</p> <p>GlaxoSmithKline plc's Sirtris Pharmaceuticals Inc. unit has a discovery stage program targeting SIRT3 for metabolic diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 3(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.344 Published online March 18, 2010</p>	Multiple patents pending; some patents licensed to GlaxoSmithKline's Sirtris unit, others available for licensing	<p>Hirschey, M.D. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online March 4, 2010; doi:10.1038/nature08778</p> <p>Contact: Eric Verdin, Gladstone Institute of Virology and Immunology, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: everdin@gladstone.ucsf.edu</p>