

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Diabetes	Hepatocyte growth factor/scatter factor (HGF/SF)	<p>Studies in cell culture and in mice suggest HGF/SF could help treat type 2 diabetes. In cultured human hepatocytes, HGF/SF stimulated glucose uptake to a level similar to that seen using insulin. In a mouse model of type 2 diabetes, injection of HGF/SF plus insulin improved glucose control compared with injection of insulin alone. Next steps include further mouse studies to determine whether short- or long-term HGF/SF treatment can increase insulin responsiveness and decrease hypoglycemia.</p> <p>SciBX 4(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1328 Published online Dec. 8, 2011</p>	Unpatented; available for licensing	<p>Fafalios, A. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Nov. 13, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2531 Contact: Reza Zarnegar, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa. e-mail: rezazar@pitt.edu</p>