This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Diabetes; inflammation	Peroxisome proliferation-activated receptor- γ (PPARG; PPAR γ)	<p>Cell culture studies identified oxygenated polyketide-based PPARγ activators from the <i>Plakinastrella mamillaris</i> sponge that could help treat diabetes and inflammatory diseases. <i>In vitro</i>, the three lead polyketides selectively activated PPARγ with EC₅₀ values of 2–9 μM. In a human monocytic cell line, the lead PPARγ activator gracilioether C inhibited lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced production of two proinflammatory cytokines. Next steps include testing the lead PPARγ activators in an animal model.</p> <p>At least 16 companies have PPARγ agonists marketed or in clinical development to treat diabetes.</p> <p>SciBX 5(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.988 Published online Sept. 20, 2012</p>	Unpatented; available for licensing	<p>Festa, C. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Aug. 30, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm300911g Contact: Angela Zampella, University of Naples Federico II, Naples, Italy e-mail: angela.zampella@unina.it</p>