This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Hypercholesterolemia; hyperlipidemia	ATP-binding cassette sub-family A member 1 (ABCA1); microsomal triglyceride transfer protein (MTTP; MTP)	Mouse studies suggest inhibiting MTP and ABCA1 in the intestines could help treat hypercholesterolemia and hyperlipidemia. In mice, combined, intestine-specific knockout of *Mtp* and *Abca1* decreased acute cholesterol absorption and plasma cholesterol concentrations compared with single knockouts or no knockout. Next steps include designing an agent that inhibits both MTP and ABCA1. Aegerion Pharmaceuticals Inc. and Catalent Pharma Solutions Inc. market the MTP inhibitor Juxtapid lomitapide to treat hypercholesterolemia. Nano Terra Inc. and Kadmon Corp. LLC have KD026, an enterocyte-selective MTP inhibitor, in Phase II testing to treat diabetes and obesity. *SciBX* 6(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1097 Published online Oct. 10, 2013	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Iqbal, J. *et al. J. Biol. Chem.*; published online Sept. 9, 2013; doi:10.1074/jbc.M113.501247 **Contact:** M. Mahmood Hussain, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, Brooklyn, N.Y. e-mail: mahmood.hussain@downstate.edu