

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Diabetes; obesity	Nicotinamide N-methyltransferase (NNMT)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting NNMT activity in adipose tissue could help treat obesity and type 2 diabetes. Mice with insulin resistance had higher levels of <i>Nmmt</i> mRNA in adipose tissue than mice lacking insulin resistance. In mice, <i>Nmmt</i>-targeting antisense oligonucleotides protected against high-fat diet-induced diabetes by increasing energy expenditure compared with a nontargeting antisense oligonucleotide. Next steps could include testing NNMT inhibition in additional models of metabolic diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 7(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.527 Published online May 8, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Kraus, D. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online April 9, 2014; doi:10.1038/nature13198 Contact: Barbara B. Kahn, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: bkahn@bidmc.harvard.edu</p>