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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine/metabolic disease				
Obesity	Adenosine A_{2B} receptor ($ADORA_{2B}$); kruppel-like factor 4 (KLF4; EZF)	Mouse and cell culture studies suggest activating $ADORA_{2B}$ could help treat obesity. In cultured stromal vascular cells, an $ADORA_{2B}$ agonist inhibited lipid accumulation, prevented differentiation into adipocytes and increased KLF4 signaling compared with vehicle. In mice, *Adora*$_{2b}$ siRNA decreased Klf4 expression and increased expression of adipose-selective markers compared with scrambled siRNA. Next steps could include evaluating $ADORA_{2B}$-selective agonists in animal models of obesity.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Eisenstein, A. *et al. J. Biol. Chem.*; published online June 13, 2014; doi:10.1074/jbc.M114.566406 **Contact:** Katya Ravid, Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, Mass. e-mail: kravid@bu.edu

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