This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Anxiety	Mast cells	<p>Studies in mice suggest that increasing mast cell activation in the brain could be useful for treating anxiety. During behavioral tests, mast cell-deficient mice showed a greater anxiety-like phenotype than wild-type mice. Pharmacological blockade of brain mast cell activation increased anxiety-like behavior in the wild-type mice. Next steps could include investigating how mast cells interact with brain systems that control anxiety-like behavior.</p> <p>SciBX 1(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.1001 Published online Nov. 13, 2008</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Nautiyal, K. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Oct. 27, 2008; doi:10.1073/pnas.0809479105 Contact: Rae Silver, Columbia University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: qr@columbia.edu Contact: Donald W. Pfaff, The Rockefeller University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: pfaff@mail.rockefeller.edu</p>