This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Anxiety; depression	Corticotropin releasing hormone receptor 1 (CRHR1; CRFR1)	<p>A study in rats and monkeys identified <i>N</i>³-phenylpyrazinone CRHR1 antagonists that could help treat anxiety and depression. In rats, 3 and 10 mg/kg doses of one of the antagonists significantly reduced anxiety behaviors compared with vehicle ($p < 0.05$ and $p < 0.01$, respectively). Next steps could include evaluating the efficacy of the CRHR1 antagonists in a nonhuman primate model of anxiety.</p> <p>At least six companies have CRHR1 antagonists in Phase II or earlier to treat depression and/or anxiety.</p> <p>SciBX 2(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1112 Published online July 23, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Hartz, R.A. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online June 24, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900301y</p> <p>Contact: Richard A. Hartz, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, Wallingford, Conn. e-mail: richard.hartz@bms.com</p>