This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Stroke	Serine/threonine kinase 24 (STK24; MST3B)	<p>Studies in rats suggest that inosine could be useful for enhancing functional motor recovery after stroke. In a rat model of stroke-induced motor impairment, ventricular infusion of inosine restored about 80% of baseline forelimb function after four weeks, compared with 35%–40% recovery for saline treatment ($p < 0.001$). The improvements persisted for at least a month. Next steps include evaluating systemic infusion of inosine in animal stroke models. Alseres Pharmaceuticals Inc. has Axosine inosine in preclinical development for traumatic central nervous system injuries such as spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury and stroke.</p> <p>SciBX 2(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1116 Published online July 23, 2009</p>	Inosine and its use in traumatic central nervous system injuries like stroke, spinal cord injury and traumatic brain injury is covered by issued and pending patents; available for licensing from Alseres Pharmaceuticals Inc.	<p>Zai, L. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online June 24, 2009; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0414-09.2009</p> <p>Contact: Larry Benowitz, Children's Hospital Boston, Boston, Mass. e-mail: larry.benowitz@childrens.harvard.edu</p>