This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	Prokineticin 2 (PROK2; Bv8); prokineticin receptor 1 (PROKR1; PKR1); PROKR2 (PKR2)	<p>Studies in rodents suggest that inhibiting PROK2, PKR1 or PKR2 could treat inflammatory pain.</p> <p>Expression of Prok2 was higher in the paws of rodents with inflammatory pain and hyperalgesia than in those of controls. Mice with peritonitis had higher levels of circulating Prok2-expressing granulocytes and greater paw hyperalgesia than controls.</p> <p>Subcutaneous injections of a PKR inhibitor reduced paw hyperalgesia in both models compared with that in controls. Future work could include optimization of PKR inhibitors.</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Giannini, E. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Aug. 10, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0903720106</p> <p>Contact: Lucia Negri, Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy e-mail: lucia.negri@uniroma1.it</p>
<p>SciBX 2(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1249 Published online Aug. 20, 2009</p>				