This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Depression; pain	Norepinephrine transporter (SLC6A2; NET1; NAT1)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> studies identified a class of benzimidazolone-derived propanolamine compounds that could help treat depression, pain and other disorders resulting from norepinephrine deficiency. <i>In vitro</i>, the compounds inhibited NET1 with IC₅₀ values of 7–10 nM. In rats, several of the compounds had good pharmacokinetics and bioavailability. Next steps could include further optimization of the lead compounds.</p> <p>At least 11 companies have NET1 inhibitors in development stages ranging from preclinical to marketed for neurological conditions.</p> <p>SciBX 2(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1420 Published online Sept. 24, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Zhang, P. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Sept. 1, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900888c</p> <p>Contact: Puwen Zhang, Wyeth Research, Collegeville, Pa. e-mail: Zhangp@wyeth.com</p>