This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Neurology	Monoamine oxidase B (MAO-B)	A study in rodents identified a selective coumarin MAO-B inhibitor that could help treat neurodegenerative diseases associated with increased expression of MAO-B in the brain. In mice, the compound inhibited brain MAO-B activity with an ED ₅₀ of 0.24 mg/kg. The inhibitor had high selectivity for MAO-B and showed low <i>in vitro</i> toxicity. Next steps could include optimizing the MAO-B inhibitor. SciBX 2(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1539 Published online Oct. 22, 2009	Patent application filed covering coumarins; licensing status unavailable	Pisani, L. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i> ; published online Oct. 7, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm9010127 Contact: Angelo Carotti, University of Bari, Bari, Italy e-mail: carotti@farmchim.uniba.it