This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	9-Hydroxyoctadecadienoic acid (9-HODE); 9-oxo-octadecadienoic acid (9-oxoODE); 13-hydroxyoctadecadienoic acid (13-HODE); 13-oxo-octadecadienoic acid (13-oxoODE); transient receptor potential vanilloid 1 (TRPV1; VR1)	A study in rats suggests that inhibiting the activation of TRPV1 by oxidized linoleic acid metabolites could help treat pain. TRPV1 activation contributes to hyperalgesia and allodynia. In Chinese hamster ovary cells expressing rat TRPV1, four oxidized linoleic acid metabolites—9-HODE, 9-oxoODE, 13-HODE and 13-oxoODE—activated TRPV1. In rats, injection of 9-HODE produced significant mechanical allodynia compared with injection of vehicle ($p<0.01$). Next steps could include identifying compounds that block the synthesis or action of linoleic acid metabolites.	Patent pending; available for licensing from South Texas Technology Management Contact: Sean Thompson, South Texas Technology Management, San Antonio, Texas phone: 210-567-1630 e-mail: ThompsonS3@uthscsa.edu	Patwardhan, A.M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Oct. 19, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0905415106 Contact: Kenneth M. Hargreaves, The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas e-mail: hargreaves@uthscsa.edu
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