This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Depression	NMDA receptor NR2A subtype (GRIN2A; NR2A)	Studies in mice suggest that blocking phosphorylation of NR2A could help treat depression. In two tests of depressed behavior, mice expressing a phosphorylation-resistant variant of NR2A had fewer signs of depression than control mice expressing wild-type NR2A. Ongoing work includes identifying phosphatase enzymes that dephosphorylate wild-type NR2A and conducting electrophysiology studies on the phosphorylation-resistant variant of NR2A.	Unpatented; unlicensed	Taniguchi, S. <i>et al. EMBO J.</i> ; published online Oct. 15, 2009; doi:10.1038/emboj.2009.300 Contact: Takanobu Nakazawa, University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: takanobunakazawa-ky@umin.ac.jp
<i>SciBX</i> 2(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1672 Published online Nov. 19, 2009				