This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Neurology	Dopamine D2 receptor	<p>Genetic studies suggest that blocking a short isoform of the dopamine D2 receptor could help improve emotional control in conditions such as schizophrenia, depression and anxiety. In 134 healthy volunteers, a predominance of the long isoform of the dopamine D2 receptor over its short isoform correlated with better emotional control. Functional MRI scans of the brains of 24 patients suggested that emotional instability was higher in individuals with a preponderance of the short receptor isoform. Next steps include identifying compounds to target the short isoform of the dopamine D2 receptor.</p> <p>SciBX 2(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1770 Published online Dec. 17, 2009</p>	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Blasi, G. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online Nov. 25, 2009; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.3609-09.2009</p> <p>Contact: Alessandro Bertolino, University of Bari, Bari, Italy e-mail: a.bertolino@psichiat.uniba.it</p>