This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Addiction	Tissue-type plasminogen activator (PLAT; tPA)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting tPA could be useful for treating cocaine addiction. In mice, acute binge cocaine exposure led to a 2.1-fold increase in extracellular tPA activity in the amygdala compared with that seen in saline-injected mice. Furthermore, in mice lacking tPA, cocaine-induced locomotor sensitization and conditioned place preference were attenuated compared with what was seen in wild-type mice. Next steps could include investigating the mechanisms behind how tPA modulates cocaine-induced neuroadaptation.</p> <p>PAZ-417, a plasminogen activator inhibitor-1 (PAI-1) from Wyeth, is in Phase I testing to treat AD. PAI-1 inhibits tPA.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 2(5); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.199 Published online Feb. 5, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Maiya, R. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Jan. 26, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0812491106</p> <p>Contact: Sidney Strickland, The Rockefeller University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: strickland@rockefeller.edu</p>