This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Neuropathy	Fibroblast growth factor receptor 1 (FGFR1); FGFR2	<p>Studies in mice suggest that upregulation of FGF receptor signaling in nonmyelinated Schwann cells could be useful for treating peripheral neuropathies. In mice, lack of Fgfr1 and Fgfr2 signaling in nonmyelinating Schwann cells led to neuropathy of unmyelinated nociceptive sensory axons and caused significant impairment of thermal pain sensitivity compared with what was seen in littermate controls. Next steps include identifying the downstream targets of FGF receptor signaling whose disruption leads to axonal neuropathy.</p> <p>At least five FGF receptor agonists are in development stages ranging from preclinical to marketed for various indications.</p> <p>SciBX 2(7); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.293 Published online Feb. 19, 2009</p>	Patent status not applicable; unlicensed	<p>Furusho, M. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online Feb. 11, 2009; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5615-08.2009</p> <p>Contact: Rashmi Bansal, University of Connecticut Medical School, Farmington, Conn. e-mail: bansal@neuron.uchc.edu</p>