This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Addiction; pain	Fatty acid binding protein 5 brain (FABP5); FABP7	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest that inhibiting FABPs could increase endocannabinoid levels and help treat addiction, pain and other conditions characterized by abnormally low levels of cannabinoids. In neuroblastoma cells overexpressing FABP5 and FABP7, the endocannabinoid anandamide underwent rapid hydrolysis, resulting in low levels of the molecule compared with what was seen in the same cells treated with a FABP-specific inhibitor. Next steps include validating the results <i>in vivo</i> .	Unpublished provisional patent application filed; available for licensing Contact: Adam DeRosa, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, N.Y. e-mail: aderososa@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	Kaczocha, M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online March 16, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0901515106 Contact: Dale G. Deutsch, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, N.Y. e-mail: DDeutsch@notes.sunysb.edu Contact: Martin Kaczocha, same affiliation as above e-mail: MKaczoch@notes.sunysb.edu
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