This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	Granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor receptor (CSF2RA; CD116)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that targeting CSF2RA in the vicinity of tumors could help treat cancer-related pain. In a mouse model of sarcoma, small hairpin RNA against CSF2RA reduced tumor-related pain, tumor growth and nerve remodeling compared with control treatment. Also in mice, nerve-specific knockout of CSF2RA caused a decrease in tumor-related pain. Next steps include developing small molecules and humanized antibodies against CSF2RA.</p> <p>At least four companies have compounds targeting CSF2RA in development stages ranging from clinical to marketed to treat various cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 2(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.951 Published online June 11, 2009</p>	Findings unpatented; licensing status unavailable	<p>Schweizerhof, M. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online June 7, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.1976</p> <p>Contact: Rohini Kuner, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany e-mail: rohini.kuner@pharma.uni-heidelberg.de</p>