This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Stroke	Transient receptor potential cation channel subfamily C member 6 (TRPC6)	<i>In vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> studies suggest that blocking TRPC6 degradation could help prevent ischemic brain damage. <i>In vitro</i> , TRPC6 levels were low in neurons under ischemic conditions that lead to neuronal death, whereas high <i>TRPC6</i> levels prevented ischemia-induced damage. In a rat model of stroke, low <i>Trpc6</i> protein levels correlated with high neuronal cell death. Also in the rat model, pretreatment with a peptide that blocked <i>Trpc6</i> degradation prevented infarct damage compared with a control peptide. Next steps include identifying and developing small molecules that block TRPC6 degradation.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Du, W. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online Sept. 1, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI43165 Contact: Yizheng Wang, Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai, China e-mail: yzwang@ion.ac.cn
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