This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Huntington's disease (HD)	Not applicable	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies identified neuronal autophagy-promoting compounds that could be used to treat HD. In a primary neuron model of HD, either of two amino-substituted tricyclic compounds, nortriptyline or an N-substituted phenoxazine derivative, promoted higher levels of autophagy and increased neuron survival compared with vehicle controls. Ongoing work includes testing these and structurally related compounds in cellular and animal models of HD.</p> <p>Nortriptyline is a generic antidepressant.</p> <p>SciBX 3(36); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1101 Published online Sept. 16, 2010</p>	Patent status undisclosed; available for licensing	<p>Tsvetkov, A. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Sept. 6, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1004498107</p> <p>Contact: Steven Finkbeiner, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: sfinkbeiner@gladstone.ucsf.edu</p>