This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Insomnia	Serotonin (5-HT _{2A}) receptor; histamine H1 receptor (HRH1)	An <i>in vitro</i> and rat study identified spirocyclic-based compounds that could help treat insomnia. <i>In vitro</i> , lead compounds had low nanomolar functional K_i values against both HRH1 and 5-HT _{2A} , two receptors implicated in sleep latency and sleep maintenance. In a rat model of sleep disorder, oral dosing of the compounds led to greater total sleep time than dosing of vehicle control. Next steps could include testing these compounds in additional animal models of insomnia. SciBX 3(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1298 Published online Nov. 4, 2010	Patented; licensing status not available	Gianotti, M. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Oct. 13, 2010; doi:10.1021/jm100856p Contact: Massimo Gianotti, GlaxoSmithKline Medicines Research Centre, Verona, Italy e-mail: masgian@libero.it