This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Nerve damage	Optic atrophy 1 (OPA1)	<p>Studies in cell culture suggest that increasing OPA1 signaling could help prevent nerve damage. In mouse cerebellar neurons, overexpression of the GTPase Opa1 decreased Nmda-induced cell death compared with that in nonoverexpressing controls ($p < 0.02$). Next steps could include developing compounds that increase OPA1 signaling and evaluating their effects in animal models of neurological disorders.</p> <p>SciBX 3(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1363 Published online Nov. 18, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Jahani-Asl, A. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i>; published online Nov. 1, 2010; doi:10.1074/jbc.M110.167155 Contact: Ruth S. Slack, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada e-mail: rslack@uottawa.ca</p>