This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	Adenylate cyclase 1 (ADCY1; AC1); protein kinase M ζ (PKM ζ)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting PKMζ could help treat neuropathic pain. In mice with nerve injury, Pkmζ levels in the anterior cingulate cortex of the brain were greater than those in controls ($p < 0.05$).</p> <p>Also in the mice, injections of a PKMζ inhibitor into the anterior cingulate cortex resulted in analgesia compared with injections of saline control ($p < 0.05$). Next steps include evaluating inhibitors against AC1, which is a regulator of PKMζ, and identifying downstream targets of PKMζ.</p> <p>SciBX 3(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1454 Published online Dec. 16, 2010</p>	Patent application filed covering AC1 inhibitors; available for licensing	<p>Li, X.-Y. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Dec. 2, 2010; doi:10.1126/science.1191792</p> <p>Contact: Min Zhuo, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: min.zhuo@utoronto.ca</p> <p>Contact: Bong-Kiun Kaang, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea e-mail: kaang@snu.ac.kr</p>