This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	Neuregulin 1 (NRG1); HER2 (ERBB2; neu)	<p>Studies in rats suggest that blocking NRG1 signaling through ERBB2 could help treat pain after peripheral nerve injury. In rats, animals given intrathecal administration of Nrg1 had greater mechanical and cold-related pain sensitivity than controls. In rats with spinal nerve ligation injury, sequestering Nrg1 or inhibiting its Erbb2 receptor reduced microglia and decreased mechanical and cold-related pain hypersensitivity compared with what was seen in untreated controls. Next steps could include testing NRG1 inhibition in more animal models of pain.</p> <p>SciBX 3(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.528 Published online April 29, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Calvo, M. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online April 14, 2010; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5169-09.2010</p> <p>Contact: David L.H. Bennett, King's College London, London, U.K. e-mail: David.Bennett@kcl.ac.uk</p>