This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Rett syndrome	Brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF); methyl CpG binding protein 2 (MECP2)	A study in mice suggests that increasing BDNF levels could help treat Rett syndrome, a progressive neurodevelopmental disorder caused by mutations in <i>MECP2</i> . In <i>Mecp2</i> -deficient mice, BDNF restored synaptic activity in the brain stem to normal levels, whereas control cerebrospinal fluid did not. Next steps could include identifying small molecule therapeutics to restore BDNF levels in animal models of Rett syndrome. <i>SciBX</i> 3(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.530 Published online April 29, 2010	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Kline, D.D. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Neurosci.</i> ; published online April 14, 2010; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5503-09.2010 Contact: David M. Katz, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio e-mail: david.katz@case.edu