This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Huntington's disease (HD)	β -Catenin (CTNNB1); huntingtin (HTT)	<p>A study in human samples and animal models suggests that decreasing β-catenin could help treat HD. In mouse and fly HD models, β-catenin levels were higher than those in wild-type controls. In postmortem striatal tissue samples from people with HD, β-catenin levels were higher than those in samples from non-HD controls. In mouse striatal neurons expressing mutant <i>Htt</i>, downregulation of β-catenin by RNAi or by a small molecule improved cell viability compared with that seen using scrambled RNAi and vehicle controls. Next steps could include evaluating inhibitors of β-catenin signaling in more HD models.</p> <p>SciBX 3(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.797 Published online July 1, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Godin, J.D. <i>et al. EMBO J.</i>; published online June 8, 2010; doi:10.1038/emboj.2010.117 Contact: Sandrine Humbert, Institute Curie, Orsay, France e-mail: sandrine.humbert@curie.fr</p>