This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Neuropathy; pain; nerve damage	NADPH oxidase 2 (NOX2)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that NOX2 inhibitors or antioxidants could help treat neuropathic pain after peripheral nerve injury. In mouse models, peripheral nerve injury led to greater production of reactive oxygen species (ROS) by microglia in the spinal cords than did no injury. In the same models, <i>Nox2</i> knockout or treatment with the generic antioxidant sulforaphane led to lower levels of ROS and microglial activation markers and less mechanical allodynia and thermal hyperalgesia than no treatment. Future studies could include identifying and testing NOX2 inhibitors in models of peripheral nerve injury.</p> <p>SciBX 3(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.964 Published online Aug. 12, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Kim, D. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Aug. 2, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1009926107 Contact: Sung Joong Lee, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea e-mail: sjlee87@snu.ac.kr Contact: Melvin I. Simon, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: m1simon@ucsd.edu</p>