This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)	Superoxide dismutase 1 (SOD1)	<p>A study in mice identified aryloxanyl pyrazolone derivatives that inhibit mutant SOD1 and could help treat ALS. In a mouse model of mutant SOD1-driven ALS, the lead SOD1 inhibitor extended lifespan compared with vehicle. Next steps include identifying a partner and pursuing alternative inhibitor scaffolds.</p> <p>Isis Pharmaceuticals Inc.'s ISIS-SOD1Rx, an antisense molecule that inhibits production of SOD1, is in Phase I trials to treat ALS.</p> <p>Amorfix Life Sciences Ltd. has a mAb against SOD1 in preclinical testing to treat ALS.</p> <p>SciBX 5(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.103 Published online Jan. 26, 2012</p>	Patent applications filed; available for licensing	<p>Chen, T. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Dec. 22, 2011; doi:10.1021/jm2014277</p> <p>Contact: Richard B. Silverman, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. e-mail: agman@chem.northwestern.edu</p>