This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	Protease-activated receptor 2 (PAR2)	Rodent studies suggest inhibiting PAR2 signaling could help treat cancer-associated pain. In mice, injection of supernatant from human squamous cell carcinomas induced acute mechanical allodynia in wild-type animals but not in <i>Par2</i> -deficient animals. In a mouse model of chemically induced squamous cell carcinoma in the mouth, a <i>Par2</i> deficiency led to complete absence of cancer-induced chronic allodynia. Next steps include developing a PAR2 antagonist. <i>SciBX</i> 5(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1092 Published online Oct. 18, 2012	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Lam, D.K. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i> ; published online Oct. 10, 2012; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.2399-12.2012 Contact: Brian L. Schmidt, New York University College of Dentistry, New York, N.Y. e-mail: bls322@nyu.edu