This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Epilepsy; seizures	Not applicable	<p>Rat studies suggest blocking thalamocortical neuronal activity could help treat and prevent seizures. In rats, ipsilateral cortical stroke, which can lead to injury-induced epilepsy, increased excitability of thalamocortical neurons compared with that of neurons from the uninjured hemisphere. In epileptic rats experiencing a seizure, optogenetic inhibition of thalamocortical neurons caused immediate cessation of seizure activity and behaviors. Next steps include developing an optogenetic system that could be used for real-time control of seizures in humans.</p> <p>SciBX 5(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1185 Published online Nov. 15, 2012</p>	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Paz, J.T. <i>et al. Nat. Neurosci.</i>; published online Nov. 7, 2012; doi:10.1038/nn.3269 Contact: John R. Huguenard, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: john.huguenard@stanford.edu</p>